



Frogs of Cobb County





Amphibians of Cobb County

Family: Hylidae
[Tree frogs]





Bird-voiced Treefrog (*Hyla avivoca*)



Activity:



Summer



Spring

Habitat: Swamps, Permanent Wetlands

Major Characteristics

- Green or Brown with Mottled Gray color
- Greenish-yellow flash coloration under hind leg

Call: Ringing. Repeated "whit-whit-whit"
15 or more times



Green Treefrog (*Hyla cinerea*)



©2006 Will Cook

Activity:



Summer



Spring

Habitat: Permanent Wetlands, Ponds, Swamps

Major Characteristics

- Mostly arboreal
- Green with a white, yellow or iridescent stripe along each side of the body

Call: Nasal or duck-like. Slow, repeated “Beeps”



Upland Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris feriarum*)



Activity:



Spring



Winter

Habitat: Grassy Areas, Permanent Wetlands

Major Characteristics

- Brown or grey, with a light line across the upper lip
- Dark lateral stripe running through the eye

Call: Long “crreeeeeeeeek”. Like running fingers along the teeth of a comb.



Spring Peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*)



© John White

Activity:



Spring



Winter

Habitat: Permanent Wetlands, Wooded Areas

Major Characteristics

- Distinct X mark on its back, and small pads on its toes.
- Coloration can vary from gray to brown

Call: Series of bird-like “peeps”. Sometimes followed by a short trill



Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*)

Activity:



Spring



Summer

Habitat: Any moist habitat with high vegetation

Major Characteristics

- Coloration can vary, but has distinct warts.
- Most have brown, orange, or green stripe down the center of their back.
- Also have triangular marking on top of head

Call: Repeated, sharp “click” sounds. Like two marbles being tapped together.





Cope's Gray Treefrog (*Hyla chrysoscelis*)

Activity:



Spring



Summer

Habitat: Both permanent and ephemeral wetlands. *Wooded habitats

Major Characteristics

- Coloration can vary. Heavy bodied
- Inner thigh is bright yellow or orange when exposed.

Call: Harsh, high-pitched trill. The trill is relatively short.





Amphibians of Cobb County

Family: Ranidae
[True Frogs]





Bullfrog (*Rana [Lithobates] catesbeiana*)



Activity:



Habitat: Generally permanent wetlands with high amounts of vegetation.

Major Characteristics

- Largest frog in the U.S.
- Normally plain green, or a netlike pattern of gray or brown on a green background.

Call: "Jug-o-rum". Deep bass sound.



Pickerel Frog (*Rana [Lithobates] palustris*)



Activity:



Winter



Spring

Habitat: Slow-moving streams and wetlands with dense vegetation.

Major Characteristics

- 2 distinct rows of dark-squarish spots running down the center of its back
- Bright yellow flash colors that occur on the under side of its hind legs

Call: Low, snore-like call.



Southern Leopard Frog (*Rana [Lithobates] sphenocephala*)

Activity:



Spring

Habitat: Any freshwater habitat (without fish)

Major Characteristics

- Brownish to green in ground color with large dark green to brown spots on its back, sides, and legs

Call: Short, smooth, rising croak. Sometimes sounds like a chuckle.





Green Frog (*Rana [Lithobates] clamitans*)



Activity:



Spring



Summer

Habitat: Any freshwater habitat (without fish)

Major Characteristics

- Well defined dorso-lateral ridges
- Base coloration varies, but all have small irregular black spots
- Tympanum equal to or larger than eye

Call: Banjo “Twang”



Amphibians of Cobb County

**Families: Bufonidae, Microhylidae, Scaphiropodidae
[Toads, their allies, and similar frogs]**





Eastern Spadefoot Toad (*Scaphiopus holbrookii*)



Activity:



Spring



Summer

Habitat: Dry, sandy habitat

Major Characteristics

- Skin is smoother than other toads
- Bright yellow eyes with elliptical pupils (like cat eyes)
- Dark spade on each hind foot.

Call: Nasally, low-pitched "waaah". Wario-like



American Toad (*Bufo [Anaxyrus] americanus*)



Activity:



Autumn



Spring



Summer

Habitat: Terrestrial habitats (hardwood forests, pine forests, sandy plains, yards)

Major Characteristics

- Very warty - 1 or 2 warts per black spot.
- Postorbital ridges are completely separated from paratoid glands.

Call: Long, high pitched trill (over 8 seconds)



Fowler's Toad (*Bufo [Anaxyrus] fowleri*)



Activity:



Autumn



Spring



Summer

Habitat: Forests near permanent or ephemeral wetlands.

Major Characteristics

- Very warty – can have 3+ warts per black spot.
- Postorbital ridges often touch paratoid glands.

Call: Long, higher pitched trill. *Less vibrations in sound than American Toad



Eastern Narrowmouth Toad (*Gastrophryne carolinensis*)



© Paul Sattler

Activity:



Autumn



Spring



Summer

Habitat: Forests near permanent or ephemeral wetlands.

Major Characteristics

- Flattened frogs with pointed snouts and a fold of skin across the back of the head

Call: Super annoying - Long, nasal, high-pitched "waaaaaaaaaaaaah".



Salamanders of Cobb County





Amphibians of Cobb County

Family: Ambystomatidae
[Mole Salamander]





Marbled Salamander (*Ambystoma opacum*)



Activity:



Autumn



Winter

Habitat: Low-lying floodplains & wooded hillsides near ephemeral wetlands

Major Characteristics

- Black/dark brown body (including its venter) with light white/silvery crossbands on the dorsum

Have poison glands in their tails



Spotted Salamander (*Ambystoma maculatum*)



Activity:



Winter



Spring

Habitat: Ephemeral wetlands, usually surrounded by hardwood forests

Major Characteristics

- Relatively large. Ground color black, gray or brown
- Usually two rows of orange and yellow spots down each side of back



Mole Salamander (*Ambystoma talpoideum*)



© Jason Gibson

Activity:



Autumn



Winter

Habitat: Any wetlands surrounded by heavy forest

Major Characteristics

- Stout-bodied salamanders with large, flattened heads
- Dull coloration with two light stripes on their underside.



Amphibians of Cobb County



Family: Salamandridae
[True Salamanders & Newts]





Red-spotted Newt (*Notophthalmus viridescens*)



Activity:  **Autumn**  **Winter**  **Spring**

Habitat: Prefer shallow wetlands, but any wetlands surrounded by heavy forest

Major Characteristics

- Olive-brown with scattered red spots
- Poisonous



Amphibians of Cobb County

**Family: Plethodontidae
[Lungless Salamanders]**





Mud Salamander (*Pseudotriton montanus*)



Activity:



Autumn



Winter

Habitat: Usually near creeks & streams

Major Characteristics

- Coloration varies from red to brown
- Have small black spots that are well separated along the sides and dorsum



Red Salamander (*Pseudotriton ruber*)

Activity:



Autumn



Winter

Habitat: Usually near creeks & streams

Major Characteristics

- One of the largest stream salamanders
- Yellow iris
- Coloration is bright red to reddish orange with many irregularly rounded, black spots





Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon glutinosus complex*)



Activity:



Summer



Autumn



Winter

Habitat: Any terrestrial habitat that is moist

Major Characteristics

- Blackish-blue color and scattered silvery-white or gold spots all over their body
- Produce slimy secretions which stick like glue when threatened



Southern Red-backed Salamander (*Plethodon serratus*)



Activity:



Autumn



Winter

Habitat: Any terrestrial habitat that is moist

Major Characteristics

- Some form of central stripe (usually red or orange) down the back
- Extreme color polymorphism



Four-toed Salamander (*Hemidactylium scutatum*)



Activity:



Autumn



Winter



Spring

Habitat: Permanent wetlands and floodplains.
Almost always in association with
sphagnum moss

Major Characteristics

- The belly is porcelain white with small, but bold, black spots
- Reddish brown or brown coloration



Spring Salamander (*Gyrinophilus porphyriticus*)



Activity:



Autumn



Winter



Spring

Habitat: Creeks, streams, seeps

Major Characteristics

- Coloration varies from salmon to yellowish brown with hints of red. Mottled dark spots
- Light-colored ridge running from the eye to the tip of the snout



Seal Salamander (*Desmognathus monticola*)



Lisa Powers ©2019

Activity:



Spring



Summer



Autumn

Habitat: Streams

Major Characteristics

- Very aquatic
- Light colored, unblotched belly, as opposed to similar looking species



Three-lined Salamander (*Eurycea guttolineata*)



Activity:



Autumn



Winter

Habitat: Streams

Major Characteristics

- Tan to light yellow coloration with three bold black longitudinal stripes running from the eyes to the tail



Two-lined Salamander (*Eurycea cirrigera*)



Activity:



Winter

Habitat: Shallow creeks & streams with
cobble or wood substrate

Major Characteristics

Tan to light yellow with two black longitudinal stripes running from the eyes onto the tail



Spotted Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus conanti*)



Activity:



Summer



Autumn

Habitat: Streams

Major Characteristics

- Huge variation
- Typically have mottling with rhomboid spots that may be fused together
- Have a white to brown stripe which extends from the eye to the rear angle of the jaw.