

# List of reptiles and amphibians of the Morgan Arboretum

## Reptiles

Turtles and snakes are reptiles and have a scaly skin and, except for snakes, true claws.

### Turtles:

- **Painted Turtle** (*Chrysemys picta*)
- **Snapping Turtle** (*Chelydra serpentina serpentina*)

Turtles are rarely seen in the Arboretum, but there have been sightings in the past. They are built for the aquatic life, so the best places to find them are ponds and wetlands. Some turtles do occasionally make their way to the Arboretum, either simply passing through on their way to a better pond elsewhere, or to use gravelly areas as nest sites. With luck you might be able to stumble upon one. The first report of a Snapping turtle was made on May 19, 2011.

### Snakes:

- **Eastern Milksnake** (*Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum*)
- **Northern Brown Snake** (*Storeria dekayi*)
- **Northern Red-bellied Snake** (*Storeria occipitomaculata*)
- **Eastern Garter Snake** (*Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis*)

Snakes can sometimes be observed along the forest edges on sunny mornings, sunning themselves in order to get their muscles in motion for the day ahead. The Arboretum does not have a large diversity of species, but the ones we do have are quite beautiful. Look for them in open sunny spots along the trails, and don't worry, there are no venomous varieties here!

## Amphibians

Frogs, salamanders and newts are amphibians which means their larval form is typically aquatic, breathing through gills like a fish and undergo metamorphosis to an adult form that breathes air with lungs and/or through its permeable skin.

### Salamanders:

- **Blue-spotted Salamander** (*Ambystoma laterale*)
- **Red-spotted Newt** (*Notophthalmus viridescens*)
- **Red-backed Salamander** (*Plethodon cinereus*)

Salamanders and newts are tailed amphibians and belong to the Order Caudata.

### Frogs:

- **American Toad** (*Anaxyrus americanus americanus*) formerly (*Bufo americanus*)
- **Gray Treefrog** (*Hyla versicolor*)
- **Spring Peeper** (*Pseudacris crucifer*)
- **Green Frog** (*Lithobates clamitans*) \*
- **Leopard Frog** (*Lithobates pipiens*) \*
- **Wood Frog** (*Lithobates sylvatica*) \*

Frogs and toads are tailless amphibians and belong to the Order Salientia (formerly Anura)

\* All frogs in the genus *Lithobates* were, until recently, within the genus *Rana* (older references may still be using the name *Rana*)