

**What's Alive in Hamilton**

**Reptile and  
Amphibian Checklist  
2013**





# TURTLES

**Blanding's Turtle** (*Emydoidea blandingii*) **N, R**

**Common Musk Turtle (Stinkpot)** (*Sternotherus odoratus*) **N, R**

**Eastern Spiny Softshell** (*Apalone spinifera spinifera*) **N, Exp**

**Midland Painted Turtle** (*Chrysemys picta marginata*) **N, C**

**Northern Map Turtle** (*Graptemys geographica*) **N, R**

**Red-eared Slider** (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) **E**

**Snapping Turtle** (*Chelydra serpentina*) **N, C**


This Reptile and Amphibian Checklist is  
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## Residency Codes:

**N** = Native - Indigenous to Ontario

**E** = Exotic - Not indigenous to Ontario

## Abundance Codes:

**Exp** = Extirpated. Not currently known to be present at any location and is therefore presumed to be extirpated; however, was formerly a resident.

**R** = Rare. Highly significant in the City of Hamilton.

**U** = Uncommon. Moderately significant in the City of Hamilton.

**C** = Common. Present in many locations across the City of Hamilton.

## Reptiles and Amphibians

This list has the least number of species, but by no means are these species the least interesting! Snakes and frogs and turtles... oh my! In contrast to birds and butterflies, amphibians are best seen at night. Amphibians prefer to breed under the cover of darkness to avoid predators. Peak times to hear frogs and toads calling for mates in wetlands are on warm, humid nights from April through to the end of June. Calls can often be heard from a distance.

Reptiles are often seen basking at midday. Also, don't be surprised if you see turtles crossing roads or digging holes and laying eggs beside the road or in sandy banks near water in early June. Please drive responsibly and slow down when you see them crossing the road.

Checklist Designed by Hamilton Conservation Authority  
Checklist source: Hamilton Natural Heritage Database, 2013.

Cover photo of Jefferson Salamander by Nicholas Schwetz.



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