

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS - SEASONS AND LIMITS

Species	Season	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
American Bullfrog	July 1 through October 31	10 (combined species)	20 (combined species)
Green Frog	July 1 through October 31	10 (combined species)	20 (combined species)
Snapping Turtle	July 1 through October 31	15	30
Amphibian Eggs and Tadpoles	No closed season	15 (combined species)	15 (combined species)
Timber Rattlesnake*	June 11 through July 31	1 annual limit** (must be at least 42 inches in length, measured lengthwise along the dorsal surface from the snout to the tail, excluding the rattle, and must possess 21 or more subcaudal scales.***)	
Eastern Copperhead	June 11 through July 31	1 annual limit**	

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS for ALL Reptiles and Amphibians:

- A fishing license is required to catch or take reptiles and amphibians from the lands and waters of the Commonwealth.
- Unless otherwise indicated, reptiles and amphibians may only be taken by hand, hook, snake tongs, turtle hooks, traps, and nets less than four feet square or four feet in diameter.
- It is unlawful to take, catch, or kill a reptile or amphibian through the use of firearms, chemicals, explosives, winches, jacks, or other devices.
- It is unlawful to damage or disrupt the nest or eggs of a reptile or to gather, take, or possess the eggs of any reptile in the natural environment of this Commonwealth.
- It is unlawful to damage or destroy habitat in the pursuit of a reptile or amphibian.
- It is unlawful to take, catch, kill, or possess for the purposes of selling or offering for sale, importing or exporting for consideration, trading or bartering, or purchasing an amphibian or reptile whether dead or alive, in whole or in parts, including the eggs or any life stage that was taken from lands or waters within this Commonwealth.
- It is unlawful to transport or import into or within this Commonwealth a native species from another jurisdiction. It is also unlawful to receive a native species that was transported or imported into or within this Commonwealth from another jurisdiction.
- Taking, catching, and possessing amphibians and reptiles in Department of Conservation and Natural Resources natural areas designated by posters is prohibited.

Frogs:

- The use of artificial light to take frogs at night is illegal.
- Frogs may be taken with long bow and arrow, including compound bows, crossbows, spears, or gigs. Spears or gigs may not have more than five barbs and cannot be used in stocked trout waters.

Turtles:

- Set-lines, turtle traps, or other devices for catching turtles must include a tag indicating the name, address, and phone number of the owner or user. Traps, nets, or other devices must be of a floating or partially submerged design to allow for the release of untargeted turtles. Hooks must be at least 3.5 inches long with not less than 1 inch space between the point and shank of the hook. The number of lines or hooks per line is unlimited.

Permits:

- A permit is required to hunt, take, catch, kill, or possess Timber Rattlesnakes and Eastern Copperhead snakes.
 - Venomous Snake Permit holders must submit a catch report regardless if they did not hunt or hunted and did not harvest.
 - A permit is required to hunt, take, catch, or kill Snapping Turtles for the purpose of sale, barter, or trade.
 - The venomous snake permit fee for residents is \$31.97 per year; the fee for non-residents is \$61.97 per year.
 - The Snapping Turtle permit fee for residents is \$61.97 per year; the fee for non-residents is \$121.97 per year. Prices for venomous snake and Snapping Turtle permits include a \$1.00 agent fee and \$0.97 transaction fee.
- To purchase Venomous Snake and Commercial Turtle permits, visit your license issuing agent. Commercial Turtle Permits can also be purchased online at www.fishandboat.com.**

* It is unlawful to hunt, take, catch, or kill Timber Rattlesnakes west of Route 15 and south of Interstate 81 to the Maryland line where there is no open season.
 ** It is unlawful to possess, take, catch, or kill more than one Timber Rattlesnake or Eastern Copperhead per calendar year except as provided in Chapter 79.7(f) (Fish and Boat Code) relating to organized reptile and amphibian hunt

permits). It is unlawful to possess more than one Timber Rattlesnake or Eastern Copperhead at any time except as provided in Chapter 79.7 (f) (Fish and Boat Code).
 *** Subcaudal scales are large flat scales located on the underside of a Timber Rattlesnake between the vent (anal scale) and the base of the tail rattle.
 See page 34 for Snapping Turtle consumption advice.

The following ENDANGERED and THREATENED native species have NO OPEN SEASON. The DAILY LIMIT is 0 (zero) and POSSESSION LIMIT is 0 (zero).

The Commission has identified some species of reptiles, amphibians, fish, and aquatic organisms as endangered, threatened, or candidate species. Endangered and threatened species face extirpation and have **NO OPEN SEASON.**

- SALAMANDERS:**
 Eastern Mud Salamander (Endangered)
 Green Salamander (Threatened)
 Blue-spotted Salamander (Endangered)
- FROGS and TOADS:**
 Eastern Spadefoot (Threatened)
- SNAKES:**
 Eastern Massasauga (Endangered)
 Kirtland's Snake (Endangered)
- TURTLES:**
 Bog Turtle (Endangered)
 Southeastern Mud Turtle (Endangered)
 Northern Red-bellied Cooter (Threatened)
- Other species:**
 New Jersey Chorus Frog (Endangered)
 Eastern Cricket Frog (Endangered)
 Coastal Plains Leopard Frog (Endangered)
 Northern Rough Greensnake (Endangered)

FOR A LIST OF ALL ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND CANDIDATE FISH SPECIES, visit www.fishandboat.com.

The following native reptile and amphibian species have NO OPEN SEASON. The DAILY LIMIT is 0 (zero) and POSSESSION LIMIT is 0 (zero).

- SALAMANDERS:**
 Eastern Hellbender
 Four-toed Salamander
 Jefferson Salamander
 Marbled Salamander
 Common Mudpuppy
 Northern Ravine Salamander
- FROGS and TOADS:**
 Mountain Chorus Frog
 Upland Chorus Frog
 Western Chorus Frog
- SNAKES:**
 Eastern Hog-nosed Snake
 Eastern Ribbonsnake
- Other species:**
 Eastern Smooth Earthsnake
 Eastern Wormsnake
 Mountain Earthsnake
 Queensnake
 Short-headed Garter Snake
 Smooth Greensnake
- TURTLES:**
 Blanding's Turtle
 Woodland Box Turtle
 Spotted Turtle
 Wood Turtle
- SKINKS/LIZARDS:**
 Eastern Fence Lizard
 Northern Coal Skink

The following native reptile and amphibian species have NO CLOSED SEASON. The DAILY LIMIT is 1 (one) and POSSESSION LIMIT is 1 (one).

- SALAMANDERS:**
 Allegheny Mountain Dusky Salamander
 Eastern Red-backed Salamander
 Red-spotted Newt
 Eastern Long-tailed Salamander
 Northern Dusky Salamander
 Northern Red Salamander
 Northern Slimy Salamander
 Northern Spring Salamander
- Other species:**
 Northern Two-lined Salamander
 Seal Salamander
 Spotted Salamander
 Wehrle's Salamander
 Valley and Ridge Salamander
- FROGS and TOADS:**
 Eastern American Toad
 Gray Treefrog
 Fowler's Toad
- Other species:**
 Northern Leopard Frog
 Pickerel Frog
 Spring Peeper
 Wood Frog
- SNAKES:**
 Eastern Gartersnake
 Eastern Milksnake
 Eastern Ratsnake
 Northern Black Racer
 Red-bellied Snake
 DeKay's Brownsnake
- TURTLES:**
 Eastern Musk Turtle
 Eastern Painted Turtle
 Eastern Spiny Softshell
 Northern Map Turtle
 Midland Painted Turtle
- SKINKS/LIZARDS:**
 Common Five-lined Skink

The practice of catch and release of amphibians and reptiles is encouraged.