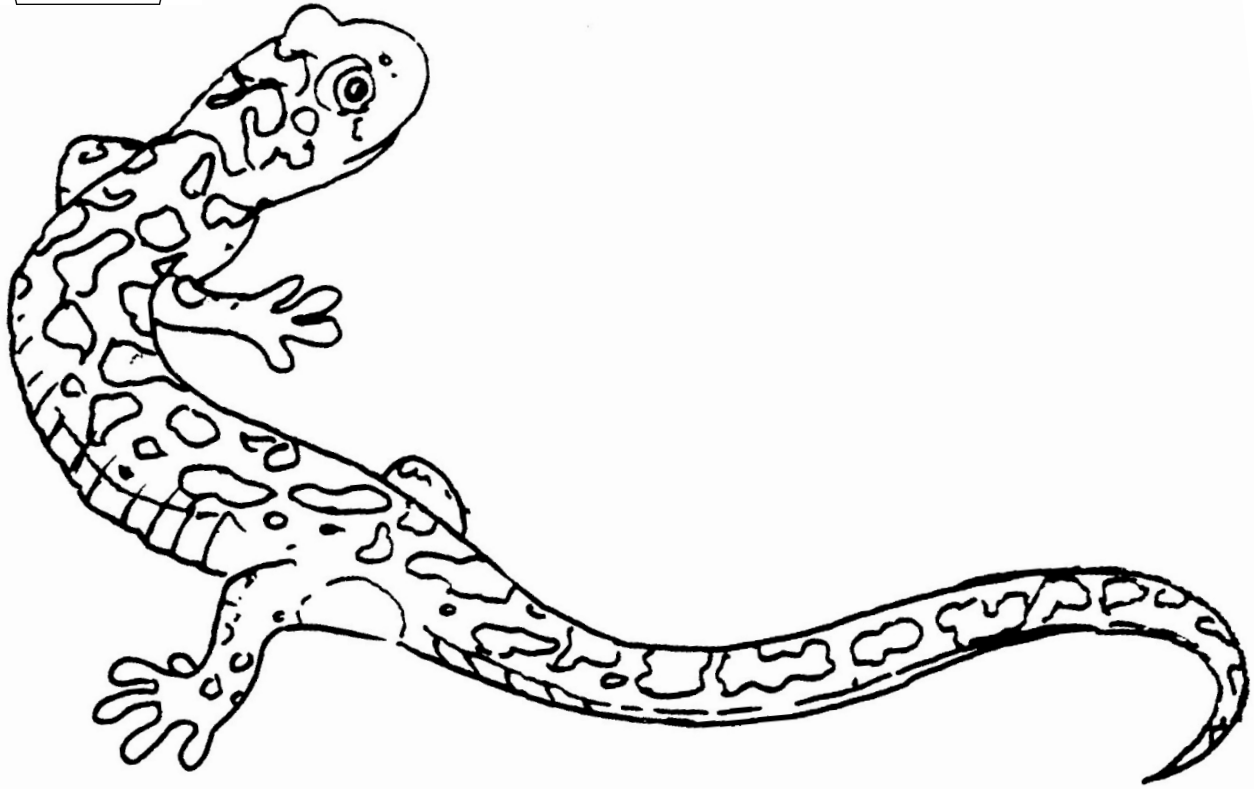




PA's Amphibian and Reptile Coloring Series

Green Salamander



All About Me: Hi! I am a Green Salamander. We belong to the lungless salamander family. We are on Pennsylvania's List of Threatened Species. We are found in only a small area of PA, and our restricted habitat is a concern for our continued existence. Protection of our preferred habitat will help us maintain stable populations in PA. We reach lengths from three to about five inches. We spend daylight hours in hiding, preferring to move about in the safety of the night. We are suitably named and are considered PA's only truly green salamander. Our green or green-yellow irregular patches stand out boldly against our black bodies. We are slender with flattened bodies. Our heads, however, appear to be swollen just behind the eyes. Our toes are square-tipped and expanded. We breathe through our thin, moist skin. Our costal grooves (side skin flaps) number 14 or 15. In PA, we are found in only a small portion of Fayette County in southwestern Pennsylvania. We prefer sandstone outcroppings of a certain geological formation in Pennsylvania, in areas that are damp, but not wet. We take refuge in the narrow crevices found in these large faces of stone. It would not be unusual either to find one of us curled up under a stone or beneath the loose bark of a rotting tree or stump. Although we like humid areas, we also seek protection from the sun and rain. We occasionally climb trees, but more often are seen at or near ground level. We mostly just eat small insects. With our great ability to climb, we can scale sheer rock walls at night in search of beetles, ants, and even mosquitoes.