

A REPTILE Checklist for Carolina Beach State Park 43 taxa

Herpetology is the branch of zoology dedicated to the study of amphibians (frogs, toads, salamanders, and newts) and of reptiles (snakes, lizards, turtles, and crocodilians). "Herps" are a diverse and interesting group of animals that are important elements in the fabric of life.

Amphibian is derived from the Greek work "amphibios". "Amphi" meaning 'both' and "bio" meaning 'life' - hence leading a double life. Indeed, most amphibians are aquatic as juveniles and breath with gills. After transformation, the adults usually live on land and most have lungs.

Many amphibians are very sensitive to environmental change. Their diversity and abundance can be an indication of an area's ecological health.

In early spring and during the summer listen for the calls of frogs and toads. Salamanders and newts, however, are silent and can be quiet secretive.

Reptiles, unlike amphibians, have dry skin covered with horny scales. Most, with the exception of snakes and legless lizards, have 4 legs with five clawed digits on each foot. While some amphibians retain gills as adults, all reptiles breathe solely by means of lungs.

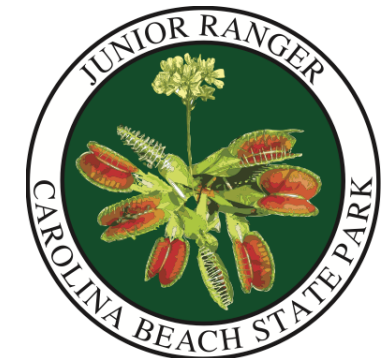
Look for these cold-blooded animals on warm to hot sunny days when they bask on rocks, logs and tree trunks. Sixty-seven species have been recorded in North Carolina.

**For more information, contact:
Carolina Beach State Park**

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Notes

REPTILE CHECKLIST Carolina Beach State Park



<https://www.ncparks.gov/junior-rangers>

Seasons:

Spring - March to May
Summer - June to August
Fall - September to November
Winter - December to February

Web Links

Amphibians and Reptiles of North Carolina State Parks
<<https://auth1.dpr.ncparks.gov/nrid/public.php>>

Resources

Snakes of the Southeast
by Whit Gibbons and Mike Dorcas
Univ. of Georgia Press
<<http://www.ugapress.org>>

Amphibians and Reptiles of the Carolinas and Virginia
by Jeffrey C. Beane, Alvin L. Braswell, Joseph C. Mitchell, and William M. Palmer
Univ. of North Carolina Press
<<http://uncpress.unc.edu>>

Reptiles of North Carolina
by William M. Palmer and Alvin L. Braswell
Univ. of North Carolina Press
<<http://uncpress.unc.edu>>

43 REPTILE taxa

CHELONIIDAE: [1]

__ Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle - x x -
Lepidochelys kempii

EMYDIDAE: [6]

__ Spotted Turtle x - - -
Clemmys guttata
 __ Eastern Chicken Turtle x - - x
Deirochelys reticularia
 __ Diamondback Terrapin x - x -
Malaclemys terrapin
 __ Eastern River Cooter x - - -
Pseudemys concinna concinna
 __ Eastern Box Turtle x x x -
Terrapene carolina
 __ Yellow-bellied Slider x x - -
Trachemys scripta scripta

KINOSTERNIDAE: [3]

__ Striped Mud Turtle x - - -
Kinosternon baurii
 __ Eastern Mud Turtle x x x x
Kinosternon subrubrum
 __ Common Musk Turtle (Stinkpot) - x - -
Sternotherus odoratus

ALLIGATORIDAE: [1]

__ American Alligator x x x -
Alligator mississippiensis

ANGUIDAE: [1]

__ Eastern Glass Lizard x x x -
Ophisaurus ventralis

ANOLIDAE: [1]

__ Green Anole x x x x
Anolis carolinensis

SCINCIDAE: [3]

__ Ground Skink x x x x
Scincella lateralis

COLUBRIDAE: [19]

__ Central/Eastern Ratsnake Complex x x x -
Pantherophis alleghaniensis-quadrivittatus
 __ Ring-necked Snake x - - x
Diadophis punctatus
 __ Eastern Hog-nosed Snake x x x -
Heterodon platirhinos
 __ Southern Hog-nosed Snake x x x -
Heterodon simus

COLUBRIDAE: [19]

__ Eastern Coachwhip x x - -
Masticophis flagellum
 __ Pine Woods Snake x x x -
Rhadinaea flavilata
 __ Southeastern Crowned Snake x x - x
Tantilla coronata
 __ Rough Earth Snake - - - -
Virginia striatula

ELAPIDAE: [1]

__ Eastern Coral Snake x x x -
Micrurus fulvius

VIPERIDAE: [3]

__ Copperhead x x x x
Agkistrodon contortrix
 __ Timber Rattlesnake - x - -
Crotalus horridus
 __ Carolina Pigmy Rattlesnake x x x -
Sistrurus miliarius

COLUBRIDAE: [19]

__ Northern Scarlet Snake x x - -
Cemophora coccinea
 __ Northern Black Racer x x x x
Coluber constrictor
 __ Eastern Mud Snake x - - -
Farancia abacura
 __ Common Rainbow Snake - - - -
Farancia erytrogramma
 __ Eastern Kingsnake x x x -
Lampropeltis getula
 __ Glossy Swampsnake - x - -
Liodytes rigida
 __ Plain-bellied Watersnake - x - -
Nerodia erythrogaster
 __ Banded Water Snake x x x -
Nerodia fasciata
 __ Northern Rough Green Snake x x x -
Opheodrys aestivus
 __ Corn Snake x x x -
Pantherophis guttatus
 __ Northern Red-bellied Snake x x x x
Storeria occipitomaculata
 __ Eastern Ribbon Snake - x - -
Thamnophis saurita

SCINCIDAE: [3]

__ Common Five-lined Skink x x x -
Plestiodon fasciatus
 __ Southeastern Five-lined Skink x x x x
Plestiodon inexpectatus
 __ Broad-headed Skink x x x x
Plestiodon laticeps

TEIIDAE: [1]

__ Eastern Six-lined Racerunner x x x -
Aspidoscelis sexlineatus

CHELYDRIDAE: [1]

__ Eastern Snapping Turtle x x - -
Chelydra serpentina