An AMPHIBIAN Checklist for Falls Lake State Recreation Area 27 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:
Falls Lake State Recreation Area

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Notes

AMPHIBIAN CHECKLIST

Falls Lake State Recreation Area

NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS
Naturally Wonderful

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>



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

27 AMPHIBIAN taxa

	S	S	F	W
AMBYSTOMATIDAE: [2]				
__ Spotted Salamander *Ambystoma maculatum*	x	-	-	x
__ Marbled Salamander *Ambystoma opacum*	-	-	x	-
PLETHODONTIDAE: [8]				
__ Northern Dusky Salamander *Desmognathus fuscus*	x	-	-	-
__ Chamberlain's Dwarf Salamander *Eurycea chamberlaini*	x	-	-	-
__ Southern Two-lined Salamander *Eurycea cirrigera*	x	-	-	x
__ Three-lined Salamander *Eurycea guttolineata*	-	-	-	-
__ Four-toed Salamander *Hemidactylium scutatum*	-	-	x	-
__ Eastern Red-backed Salamander *Plethodon cinereus*	-	-	x	-
__ White-spotted Slimy Salamander *Plethodon cylindraceus*	x	-	-	-
__ Eastern Mud Salamander *Pseudotriton montanus montanus*	x	-	-	-
PROTEIDAE: [1]				
__ Neuse River Waterdog *Necturus lewisi*	-	-	x	-
SALAMANDRIDAE: [1]				
__ Red-spotted (Eastern) Newt *Notophthalmus viridescens viridescens*	x	-	-	-
HYLIDAE: [6]				
__ Cope's Gray Treefrog *Hyla chrysoscelis*	x	x	-	-
__ Green Treefrog *Hyla cinerea*	-	x	-	-
__ Barking Treefrog *Hyla gratiosa*	x	-	-	-
__ Squirrel Treefrog *Hyla squirella*	x	-	-	-
MICROHYLIDAE: [1]				
__ Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad *Gastrophryne carolinensis*	x	x	x	-
PELOBATIDAE: [1]				
__ Eastern Spadefoot *Scaphiopus holbrookii*	x	-	x	-

	S	S	F	W
BUFONIDAE: [2]				
__ Eastern American Toad *Anaxyrus americanus*	x	-	-	-
__ Fowler's Toad *Anaxyrus fowleri*	x	-	-	-
HYLIDAE: [6]				
__ Eastern Cricket Frog *Acris crepitans*	x	x	-	-
__ Spring Peeper *Pseudacris crucifer*	x	-	x	-
__ Upland Chorus Frog *Pseudacris feriarum*	x	-	-	-
RANIDAE: [4]				
__ American Bullfrog *Lithobates catesbeianus*	-	x	-	-
__ Green Frog *Lithobates clamitans*	-	x	-	-
__ Pickerel Frog *Lithobates palustris*	x	-	-	-
__ Southern Leopard Frog *Lithobates sphenocephalus*	x	x	-	-