

Lizards

Although lizards may seem similar to snakes, there are some differences. Lizards have eyelids, ears, and most have legs with well developed claws. Insects are their primary food, although they will also eat spiders, millipedes, and worms. They are known for their ability to regenerate their tail which may break off if grabbed by a predator. They may dwell on the ground or in trees.

- ◇ Ground Skink
- ◇ Eastern Six-lined Racerunner
- ◇ Broad-headed Skink
- ◇ Little Brown Skink
- ◇ Eastern Fence Lizard
- ◇ Slender Glass Lizard
- ◇ Five-lined Skink
- ◇ Southeastern Five-lined Skink



Eastern Fence Lizard

**Please help us protect our
Natural Resources**

Please remember that all plants and animals found in Hampton's City Parks are protected by law. It is illegal to molest, injure, or remove any wildlife including their nests, eggs, or young. It is also illegal to remove, cut, damage, or destroy any plants (including plant parts) found in the park. Help us conserve YOUR natural resources.

Hampton, VA

Welcome to Hampton's City Parks.

The City of Hampton is located in what is called the Peninsula area of the Coastal Plain region of the State of Virginia. The forests, fields, rivers, marshes, and grasslands are a nature lover's paradise.

During your visit to any of Hampton's outstanding city parks, we hope you have the opportunity to observe our many and diverse species of fauna and flora.



Rough Green Snake

For more information...

If you have any questions regarding this brochure, or if you would like more information about Hampton City Parks and Recreation parks please contact us at:

*Hampton Parks and Recreation Department
22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669
Tel: 757-727-6348
www.hampton.gov/parks*

Hampton Natural Resources
Tel: 757-825-4606
Email: chickman@hampton.gov



Hampton City Park's

REPTILES



Snapping Turtle

*"Enjoy Hampton's
Natural Areas"*

Hampton Natural Resources

What is a Reptile?

Reptiles belong to the Class Reptilia. Belonging to the Class Reptilia are the crocodylians, turtles, lizards, amphisbaenians, and snakes. Extralimital is the only surviving member of another group, the tuatara, now confined to tiny islets off the coast of New Zealand.

Reptiles are cold-blooded (ectothermic), deriving heat from outside sources and controlling their body temperatures by moving to cooler or warmer environments as necessary. This is why snakes and lizards are often seen basking in the sun. Basking also helps reptiles digest food, and fight disease and parasites.

Reptiles are clad in scales, shields, or plates and their toes bear claws. Reptiles lay eggs (which are usually leathery) on land in nests concealed in leaf litter, underground, or in rotten logs. Some snakes give birth to live young.



Copperhead

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The following reptiles have been found in the City of Hampton.

Turtles

The turtle has an external shell which is part of its skeletal system. Most turtles are found in or near water with the exception of the box turtle. Their diet consists primarily of aquatic plants and animals. In winter they burrow into the mud at the bottom of lakes and streams. They emerge from the water in spring to lay their eggs in an underground nest.

- ◇ Snapping Turtle
- ◇ Mud Turtle
- ◇ Eastern Musk Turtle
- ◇ Eastern Painted Turtle
- ◇ Red-bellied Turtle
- ◇ Yellow-bellied Slider
- ◇ Red-eared Slider
- ◇ Spotted Turtle
- ◇ Eastern Box Turtle
- ◇ Northern Diamond-backed Terrapin
- ◇ Florida Cooter
- ◇ Loggerhead (marine)
- ◇ Kemp's Ridley (marine)
- ◇ Leatherback (marine)
- ◇ Green Turtle (marine)
- ◇ Hawksbill (marine)



Eastern Box Turtle

Snakes

All snakes are carnivorous and will mostly eat only live animals. Their jaws are expandable to allow them to eat prey that is several times the diameter of their head. They also have a flexible spine consisting of from 100-400 vertebrae, each with a pair of thin ribs attached to it. Lacking external ears, they pick up vibrations and odors with their forked tongue. There are three species of pit vipers in Virginia that have a heat sensing organ that allows them to detect warm-blooded animals within approximately eight feet.

- ◇ Canebrake Rattlesnake * (endangered in VA)
- ◇ Copperhead *
- ◇ Cottonmouth *
- ◇ Black Racer *(this species is venomous)
- ◇ Black Rat Snake
- ◇ Eastern Garter Snake
- ◇ Eastern Kingsnake
- ◇ Northern Watersnake
- ◇ Brown Watersnake
- ◇ Red-bellied Watersnake
- ◇ Eastern Ribbon Snake
- ◇ Southern Ring-necked Snake
- ◇ Rough Green Snake
- ◇ Eastern Worm Snake
- ◇ Eastern Hog-nosed Snake
- ◇ Northern Brownsnake
- ◇ Smooth Earthsnake
- ◇ Rough Earthsnake
- ◇ Scarlet Snake
- ◇ Corn Snake
- ◇ Rainbow Snake
- ◇ Mole Kingsnake
- ◇ Scarlet Kingsnake
- ◇ Redbelly Snake