

Eastern Box Turtle Prompt

*This week's Wildlife Spotlight: **Eastern Box Turtle, *Terrapene carolina carolina****

~~If you've ever driven on a road in Georgia, there's a good chance we're going to bet~~ that you have spotted a box turtle crossing the road ~~here in Georgia~~. Eastern Box Turtles are one of the most common turtles to find in Georgia ~~and y-~~ You likely ~~caught them on a search~~ ~~spotted them moving around searching~~ for food. They have an incredible homing ability, ~~meaning that they can find their way home no matter where they're placed and even if moved outside of their home area can find their way back~~. They are called box turtles because of the unique hinge they have on their plastron ~~(the underside of their shell)~~ that allows them to close their body completely into their shell. After the hinge is closed it's almost impossible to pry open! While this is a common turtle ~~to see~~ in Georgia, their populations are on decline due to habitat loss.

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Spotted Turtle Prompt

*This week's Wildlife Spotlight: **Spotted Turtle, *Clemmys guttata****

Did you know that spotted turtles only get to be 5 inches long? That's the average length of a ~~pencil writing pen~~! These unique turtles ~~were appropriately named~~ ~~forgot their name from crazy enough~~ the pattern of yellow spots across their backs. The males and females are ~~sexual dimorphic~~ which means that they look different ~~based on their sex~~. You can tell them apart by ~~looking at~~ their eyes. Males have brown eyes while females have red eyes. Spotted turtles can be found in the ~~coastal plain's~~ region of Georgia mostly ~~inhabiting in~~ swamps and bogs. They are a threatened species of turtle here in Georgia. DNR is currently expanding the number of surveys being done in hopes of learning more about these unique turtles. Want to learn more about spotted turtles, click the link below!

https://georgiabiodiversity.org/portal/profile?group=all&es_id=15915

Commented [1]: Sexual dimorphic or sexually dimorphic?

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Common Snapping Turtle Prompt

*This week's Wildlife Spotlight: **Common Snapping Turtle, *Chelydra serpentina****

~~As many Georgia locals have likely noticed, snapping~~ ~~these~~ turtles are top-level predators in many aquatic ecosystems. They have a powerful jaw and neck that allows them to eat ~~a~~ variety of food materials including fish, amphibians and even birds. ~~Despite their variety of prey, Snapping Turtles eat~~ ~~But Snapping Turtles not only eat meat but~~ vegetation as well. Much of their diet is scavenged from plant material along the bottom of waterbodies. While their bite is incredibly strong it is not as powerful as you would think. They can bite with a force of about 210 newtons, ~~only 1/5 of a human's 1,100 newtons. In comparison humans bite with 1,100~~

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newtons! Of course, those sharp-edged jaws can still do a lot of damage. ~~But they can still do a lot of damage with their sharp edged jaws.~~