



# Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



# Backyard Exploration Series



Spring is hopping!



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# Frogs are amphibians so they....

- Are true **hibernators.** in ponds, streams and wetlands.
- Emerge in the spring when **vernal pools** thaw and the ground warms.
- Erupt in a **chorus** of calls as the males search for mates.
- Have two life stages- one in water the other on land.





CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) employs **Wildlife Biologists** who research the populations of all wildlife in Connecticut....that includes FROGS!

- Scientists specializing in amphibians and reptiles are called **Herpetologists**.





# Let's look at 3 of the 7 frog species that live in CT.

1. [Wood Frog](#)- emerges very early in spring
  - Sounds like ducks quacking
  - Identified by black mask
  - Lay egg masses in vernal pools

Hint for use:

Follow the highlighted link to our frog webpage and make sure to open the call to hear the frogs.



Photo by Paul Fusco



# The smallest frog we have.

## 2. Spring Peeper

- Emerges very early in spring
- High pitched squeak call
- Identified by small size and “X” on its back



Photo by Paul Fusco



# Not all are green.

## 3. Pickerel Frog

- Very common in Connecticut
- Lives in wet grassy areas with shallow water
- Has a toxic skin covering for predator protection - except bullfrogs & green frogs are immune
- Brown color with orange-yellow on underside of legs





## How can you help frogs?

- Best observe them, not handle them.
- Leave them, tadpoles and egg masses in the wild.
- Use less fertilizers and pesticides to help keep water healthy.
- Protect their habitats whenever possible.







Take our Frog Quiz to Test your Frog Knowledge

- Go to [Socrative Student](#)
- Join by typing in Room Name- CTDEEPQUIZ
- Enter your name and answer the questions.

**GOOD LUCK!**



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# For more frog fun .....

- Visit [CT Frogs and Toads](#) to listen to all of their calls and learn more about them.
- Search for frogs with your family and post a selfie, looking for frogs, to [#ctonlineoutside](#) or [#ctstateparks](#)

