



**WOOD FROG** (*Rana sylvatica*) Family Ranidae

**Description:** These frogs have a stout body with a narrow waist. They have extensive webbing on their hind feet. Their bodies are tan, brown, gray, or a reddish brown. They have a distinctive dark eye mask with a white stripe running through it on either side. The bellies are an unmottled white or cream color. Adults reach a size of 2 to 2 3/4 inches. They eat small flies and other insects. These frogs live to be at least 3 years old. They hibernate on land. Common in the park.

**Habitat:** Wood Frogs inhabit deciduous woodlands in summer and fall.

**Active Period:** The Wood Frog is the first frog to emerge in the spring. They can be observed from March through to October.

**Call:** A low intensity chuckling or quacking call.

**Eggs:** Females lay eggs in loose jelly clumps in masses where 100 or more other females also lay their eggs. A transparent jelly covering over the eggs is covered with algae during development to hide the eggs. Each female lays up to 2000 eggs, which hatch in about 3 weeks.



**AMERICAN TOAD** (*Bufo americanus*) Family Bufonidae

**Description:** American Toads have dry, warty, reddish or brown skin with black spots. The warts are located in the spots, averaging one to two warts per spot. They have mottled bellies with a parotid gland located behind each eye. Males usually are smaller than females, 2 to 3 inches compared to 3 to 4 inches. Males also have dark colored throats and have enlarged thumb pads during the breeding season. Lifespan is 5-10 years. Common in the park.

**Habitat:** American Toads inhabit grassy yards, forests, and meadows. They seek areas with plenty of insects and moisture.

**Active Period:** They can be observed from April through November. They are nocturnal.

**Call:** The call of the males to attract females is a long, trill that lasts about thirty seconds.

**Eggs:** Up to 8000 black and white eggs are laid in double strings attached to submerged vegetation that hatch in about one week.

**MARSH**

**Location:** Shores of rivers, streams, ponds, lakes, and coastlines

**Plant life:** Soft-stemmed plants such as cattail and arrowhead

**Water:** Up to 7 feet of water. Small marshes may dry up in the summer

**BOG**

**Location:** In northern climates often in deep depressions with no drainage

**Plant life:** Layers of peat, evergreen trees and shrubs. A surface carpet of sphagnum moss. Insect-eating plants

**Water:** Stagnant and acidic waters, sometimes covered with a floating mat of moss. Open water may be very deep

**SWAMPS**

**Location:** Along rivers, streams and lakes

**Plant life:** Mainly woody-stemmed plants such as shrubs and trees

**Water:** Shallow water that often flood in spring but may dry up by the end of summer

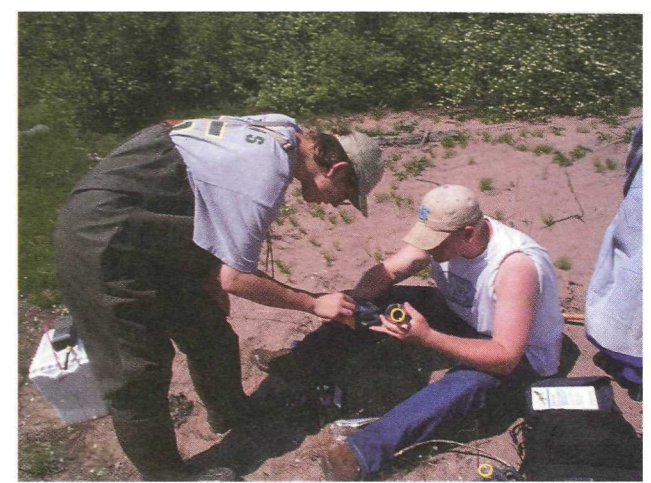
**FEN**

**Location:** In northern climates usually in low-lying areas with some drainage

**Plant life;** Layers of peat, sedges, grasses and low shrubs. Insect-eating plants

**Water:** Slow-moving, shallow surface water that may dry up during the summer

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# FROGS AND TOADS OF THE APOSTLE ISLANDS





**LEOPARD FROG** (*Rana pipiens*) Family Ranidae

**Discription:** Elongated body with a slightly pointed snout. Smooth skin with a fold running from the eye to the pelvic region marked by a white stripe on each side. Color is brownish, grayish, or green, with a white belly. The adult size is 2 to 4 in . Lifespan is 3 years with breeding May through April. They overwinter in the mud at the bottom of lakes and ponds. Locally common in the park.

**Habitat:** Near marshes, ponds, borders of lakes, and along slowly moving streams in grassy habitats or wetlands.

**Active Period:** Late March through mid-October.

**Food:** Large grasshoppers, crickets, worms, and spiders.

**Call:** A series of clucking notes is usually emitted followed by a long snoring sound or an “urr, urr, urr”.

**Eggs:** 3000 to 5000 eggs are laid in round jelly masses underwater, attached to twigs and other vegetation.



**SPRING PEEPER** (*Pseudacris crucifer*) Family Hylidae

**Discription:** Small, narrow bodies that are about 3/4 to 1 1/2 inches long. They have small round disks on their toes for climbing trees, and their hind feet are also webbed. A distinguishing mark is the X on their backs. Color is tan, gray, or brown with a darker brown patch around each eye, and a creamy yellow belly. Lifespan is at least 3 years. They overwinter in shallow soil, and the water in their bodies actually freezes. They use glucose like antifreeze to protect their cells from damage. Common in the park.

**Habitat:** Marshes, ponds, wooded areas, and grassy meadows.

**Active Period:** March through August. This species is mostly nocturnal.

**Food:** Small invertebrates such as spiders, ants, and beetles.

**Call:** A loud and high-pitched peep that is repeated in quick succession up to 4000 times per hour. There is also a distinct aggressive call that is a long trill.

**Eggs:** Each female lays up to 800 eggs which she individually attaches to plants.



**GREEN FROG** (*Rana clamitans*) Family Ranidae

**Discription:** The Green Frog has the body of a semi-aquatic frog, with very large hind legs for jumping. They resemble young bullfrogs except for the fold of skin reaching from the eye to the pelvic region. The webbing on their toes goes only to the second joint of the 4th toe. Color is green or olive, and males have bright yellow throats during the breeding season. The size of most adults reaches about 2 to 4 inches. Their lifespan is at least five years. Tadpoles overwinter and transform a year or two after hatching. Common in the park.

**Habitat:** Ponds, marshes, borders of lakes, and sometimes beside streams.

**Active Period:** March through November.

**Food:** Invertebrates and small vertebrates, including beetles, flies, grasshoppers, caterpillars, spiders, frogs, and fish.

**Call:** This call sounds like a banjo string being plucked.

**Eggs:** Females lay their tiny, black eggs in a filmy egg mass on the surface with 3000-5000 eggs per clutch. Females usually lay two clutches.



**MINK FROG** (*Rana septentrionalis*) Family Ranidae

**Description:** Mink Frogs are generally green to brown, often spotted or mottled. The belly is white or yellowish and may have gray markings. The mink frog differs from the green frog in with extensive black pigment on its back. They are a medium sized frog about 3 inches long. Mink Frogs eat a variety of land and water creatures, particularly ants, beetles, bugs, moth larvae, spiders and flies. When picked up, they emit a smell like a mink (or rotting onions). Locally common.

**Habitat:** Quiet waters like lakes, ponds, and deeper bogs with lots of plants. Also may be found in damp heavy forest with numerous bogs.

**Active Period:** From late April to September with breeding late May to August.

**Call:** The male calls day and night with a repeated "cut-cut-cut" sound. Several frogs together make sounds like hammering shingles to a roof.

**Eggs:** Females produce about 1,000 eggs each year. The tadpoles overwinter and transform the next July and August.