

Featured Species



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Gray Treefrog (*Hyla versicolor*)

The gray treefrog is a rough skinned, greenish to brownish to gray colored frog with several dark splotches on its back. There is a dark-edged light spot beneath each eye, the undersides of the thighs are a bright orange-yellow, and large toe pads are present. The average length of the gray tree frog is 1 ¼ - 2 3/8 inches. The gray treefrog can be found from southern Ontario (Canada) and Maine south to northern Florida, west to central Texas and north through Oklahoma and Manitoba (Canada) and breeds April to August. The gray treefrog can be found in trees or shrubs growing in or near permanent bodies of water. The mating call of the gray treefrog is a resonating trill.

Need a Refresher on the Calls?

Brush up on your calls by listening to recordings of the calls most likely heard in your area. A list of these species and recordings of their calls are available on the FrogWatch USA Web site (www.frogwatch.org), thanks to Lang Elliott. In March, Mr. Elliott's latest book, *The Frogs and Toads of North America*, was published and includes nearly 400 photographs, natural history information, range maps, an audio CD, and more. Learn more at www.Naturesound.com.

We Want to Hear from You!

Please share your FrogWatching experiences, questions, and photos with us and your fellow FrogWatch Volunteers, by contacting Mandy at mgaudreau@rwpzoo.org. The newsletter will be published twice a month throughout the FrogWatching season. Previous newsletters are available online at: <http://www.aza.org/frogwatch/>.

SEEKING TRAINING MATERIAL FEEDBACK

We here at AZA are interested in knowing how your 2009 FrogWatch USA season is going, and are particularly interested in hearing back from people who trained others to FrogWatch. Among the questions are: How did your training sessions go, how many people attended them, and how many dedicated FrogWatchers emerged from those sessions? What do you think of the FrogWatch USA training materials? Which materials did you use and find most useful? Are there any materials that you were not provided with but think would be useful for future training sessions? Would you like additional field or learning activities? Also, if you have developed any training materials of your own that you would like to share, please tell us about them or email samples of them to us in an attachment.

Because this is the first season that AZA has managed FrogWatch USA, we are particularly eager to receive your feedback and to develop any new materials that you would find useful. Please send your thoughts and suggestions to Mandy at mgaudreau@rwpzoo.org

Thank you for your input!

Conservation Tip #7

Rescuing tadpoles in your swimming pool

Every year many people are faced with the dilemma of tadpoles in their swimming pool. What should you do if you find yourself in this situation? Gently remove the tadpoles from your swimming pool and place them in a nearby body of water that has shallow edges. Tadpoles require shallow water because heat from the sun must be able to reach them so they can thermo-regulate themselves. The photo below was taken by Susan from central Oklahoma.



News From Around the Country

What FrogWatchers are Hearing

- Valerie in Vermont is hearing tree frogs and the wood frog tadpoles in her pond are getting bigger and developing legs
- Mandy saw pickerel frogs in Rhode Island this past week

Congratulations, Graduates!

The photo below features the graduates of the Edmonds Backyard Wildlife Habitat (Wash.) FrogWatch USA training program.



Photos by FrogWatchers



Above: A beautiful bullfrog photo taken by Jeff in Windsor, Calif. *Editor's note:* While important to its native ecosystem, bullfrogs are considered to be invasive in California. Below: A gray treefrog, photo taken by Alexis Mlynarski of Ware, Mass.



Photos by FrogWatchers



Above: A tiny toadlet, photo taken by Rachel and Morgan Allan of Charleston, S.C.



Above: A singing American toad. The photo was taken by Janet Allen in Syracuse, N.Y.

Below: This photo is a great example of how the coloring of the green frog varies from green to bronze. This photo was taken by Karen Oliver-Paull from Indian Land, S.C.

