

2015 Beginning of Season Newsletter



Wood Frog, © B. Foster

March 2015

[TRAINING SESSIONS & ONLINE COURSES](#)

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Dear Melissa,

Welcome to the 18th year of FrogWatch USA! The 2015 monitoring season is well underway in some parts of the country, and many frogs and toads have started to call. Since February 1st, more than 250 species observations have been recorded across nearly 100 monitoring sites - go [online](#) and see where. We thank you and all FrogWatch USA volunteers, and we look forward to your continued participation.



Leap Into In-Person Training Sessions and Online Courses

Get the chance to meet other FrogWatch USA volunteers by attending an in-person volunteer training session. Held by chapter coordinators at local chapters, many include field components and instruction in online data entry. Check the [Volunteer Training Session schedule](#) regularly to find a training session near you.

Interested in volunteering but don't live near a chapter? Thinking of starting a chapter in your community? Having trouble with online data entry? Not to worry! FrogWatch USA offers three online courses for current and new volunteers, as well as prospective chapter coordinators, hosted through the [Association of Zoos & Aquariums eLearning portal](#). These self-paced modules are offered at a discounted rate for AZA individual members, and include a wealth of resources that can be kept for future reference upon completion of the course.

FrogWatch USA in Your Community

With nearly 130 chapters across the nation, FrogWatch USA is continuing to grow! We extend a warm welcome to our newest chapters, established this year:



- [Warner Nature Center FrogWatch](#) (MN)
- [Busch Gardens Williamsburg FrogWatch](#) (VA)
- [North East Florida FrogWatch](#) (FL)
- [Friends of Dyke Marsh FrogWatch](#) (VA)
- [Akron Zoo FrogWatch](#) (OH)
- [Mitchell Lake FrogWatch](#) (TX)

We are grateful for chapter coordinators and all that they do. FrogWatch USA launched the chapter network in 2010, and the program has blossomed under the local leadership of chapter coordinators. Join us in congratulating the following coordinators for five or more years of dedicated service:

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| • Miranda Clark | • Carol McCallum | • Marlo Perdicas |
| • Amy Fenwick Reaume | • Steve McGaffin | • Lou Perrotti |
| • Roz Gorzeman | • Jason Moeller | • Frank Ridgley |
| • Jessica Hurley | • Brad Moxley | • Marcy Sieggreen |
| • Rick Jackson | • Sue Muller | • Joshua Watson |
| • Becky Johnson | • Amber Neilson | • Gretchen Ziegler |
| • Jen Karow | • Laurie Pagel Brown | |



See Us on SciGirls

We are proud to announce that FrogWatch USA will be one of the several partners featured on PBS Kid's television show, SciGirls! This educational program is aimed at introducing STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) subjects to young girls by covering a wide array of topics, including citizen science. Season 3 airs in April 2015 and kicks off with the FrogWatch USA episode featuring the Saint Louis Zoo chapter. Check your local listings and visit the [SciGirls' website](#) to watch the full episode and participate in fun citizen science activities starting next month.

Listen for these Species

Spring is nearly upon us! When you're out in the field, and depending on where you live, you may hear some of these species at this time of year:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Wood Frog | • Pickerel Frog |
| • Spring Peeper | • American Toad |
| • Southern Leopard Frog | • Southern Toad |
| • Species in the Western Chorus Frog Complex (e.g. Upland Chorus Frog) | • Species in the Pacific Treefrog Complex (e.g. Sierran Treefrog) |

Remember to review [monitoring protocols](#) and hone your call identification skills to make sure you contribute the best quality data.

Stay Connected



We are looking forward to a great monitoring season and we couldn't do it without you.

Sincerely,



Spring Peeper, © R. Gauza

The AZA FrogWatch USA Team

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