

CITIZEN SCIENCE



What is Citizen Science?

- Citizen science is the effort of volunteers (regardless of age, location, or experience) in gathering data about our environment.
- It's You and Nature

Who are Citizen Scientists?

- Anyone can be a citizen scientist, there's a project for every level of skill and time commitment.
- You have permission to let out your inner child to explore the natural world around you

What monitoring projects are out there?

- Nature Canada / EMAN
- <http://www.naturecanada.ca/>
- FrogWatch
- PlantWatch
- IceWatch
- WormWatch

What monitoring projects are out there?

- Toronto Zoo

www.torontozoo.com/AdoptAPond

Adopt a Pond Program

Frog Watch

Turtle Tally

What monitoring projects are out there?

- Bird Studies Canada
- <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/>
- Project Feeder Watch
- Canadian Lakes Loon Survey
- Marsh Monitoring
- Breeding Bird Surveys

What monitoring projects are out there?

- Citizen Science website
- <http://dev.stewardshipcanada.ca/communities/citizenScience/home/csnIndex.asp>
- Many Projects listed
- Bio-Blitzes (CSW/Stewardship Councils/Cas)

American Toad (*Bufo americanus*)



Description:

- 5 - 9 cm
- body is covered with brown "warts" one or two of which are contained within numerous dark blotches
- behind each eye there is a kidney shaped poison gland (parotoid gland), which does not touch the bony ridge behind the eye

Habitat:

- most terrestrial of Ontario's amphibians, it is found in a variety of habitats
- frequents urban yards and gardens and heavily forested areas, anywhere there is an abundance of moisture and food (insects)
- prefers shallow, warm water ponds for breeding

Conservation concerns, distribution and status:

- common and widespread throughout Ontario

Green frog (*Rana clamitans*)



Description:

- 6 - 9 cm
- green to dark brown, often with small black dots scattered over body and prominent dorso-lateral ridges running down the back
- males have a yellow throat in the breeding season

Habitat:

- wide range of habitats
- usually found in any permanent bodies of water such as ponds, lakes, streams marshes
- tadpoles overwinter

Conservation concerns, distribution and status:

- common and widespread in southern and central Ontario

Midland Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata triseriata*)



Description:

- approximately 3cm
- brown with 3 stripes running down its back which may be broken, reduced and even absent
- there are toe discs, but not as large as the gray treefrogs

Habitat:

- grassy areas ranging from dry to swampy and sunny, shallow pools and in urban areas
- this is the more southern subspecies of the chorus frog *Pseudacris triseriata* and is generally found south of 47 degrees latitude

Conservation concerns, distribution and status:

- locally common in much of southern Ontario

- Get out there
- And Get' er Done