

Wetland Habitat Associations for Local Frog and Toad Species

Family		Species		
		Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat Associations
Ranidae - True Frogs ¹		American Bullfrog	Lithobates catesbianus	Most often found in permanent marshes, swamps, ponds, lakes, streams, and river habitat so that tadpoles can overwinter. One of the few species that can be found with fish.
		Green Frog	Lithobates clamitans	Habitat generalist; will use streams, ponds, marshes, and swamps.
		Pickerel Frog	Lithobates palustris	Adults often observed along streams and in marshes during the day, but primarily breed in swamps, marshes, and ponds.
		Southern Leopard Frog	Lithobates sphenocephalus	Found along streams, ponds, marshes, and swamps, but prefers to breed in wetlands without fish; can tolerate brackish water.
		Wood Frog	Lithobates sylvaticus	Closely associated with seasonal (vernal) pools (obligate species). Migrate to seasonal pools in the early spring and congregate to breed before dispersing into surrounding woodland.
Hylidae - New World Tree- frogs	Hyla - True Treefrogs	Gray Treefrog	Hyla veriscolor	Primarily swamps and wet wooded areas; occurs in wetlands with close proximity to shrubs and trees, which it relies on outside of the breeding season as well.
		Cope's Gray Treefrog	Hyla chrysoscelis	
		Green Treefrog	Hyla cinerea	Marshes, swamps, ponds, lakes, and ditches; will utilize tidal marshes.
	Pseudacris - Chorus Frogs	Spring Peeper	Pseudacris crucifer	Occurs in large numbers particularly in cattail marshes, wooded swamps, and other vegetated wetlands.
		Upland Chorus Frog *	Pseudacris feriarum	Closely associated with fish-free seasonal pools, cattail marshes, river floodplains, and ditch habitat by railroads. May be in decline in the District and throughout its range.
	Acris - Cricket Frogs	Eastern Cricket Frog	Acris crepitans	Prefers wetlands with open areas; often observed along the shoreline of streams, ponds, lakes, and marshes.
Bufonidae - True Toads ²		American Toad	Anaxyrus americanus	Will utilize most shallow, fish-free wetlands, including ditches, tire ruts, and flooded fields and grasslands.
		Fowler's Toad	Anaxyrus fowleri	
Scaphiopodidae - North American Spadefoots		Eastern Spadefoot	Scaphiopus holbrookii	Primarily found in areas with dry, sandy soil and active following heavy rains, typically 1" or more over a 24 hour period. Obligate seasonal pool species that breeds in shallow water and completes metamorphosis in 2-4 weeks.

^{1.} The taxa of North, Central, and South American frogs in the family Ranidae were removed from the large, predominantly Eurasian genus *Rana* in 2006 to now include *Lithobates* (American Water Frogs) (Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR); Crothers et al. 2008.)

^{2.} The separation of the genus Bufo into separate genrea to include Anaxyrus (North American Toads) was adopted in 2006 (Crothers et al. 2008).