



How to Report a Turtle Sighting

The WI DNR uses citizen-based reporting to catalog and protect the turtles of Wisconsin. You can do your part and report a turtle sighting at:

[www.wiatri.net/inventory/witurtles](http://www.wiatri.net/inventory/witurtles)

Temporary Turtle Crossing Signs

If you have seen several turtles crossing a particular road, contact the RLIA for a temporary turtle crossing sign to warn motorists.

Visit [www.rocklake.org/turtle](http://www.rocklake.org/turtle) for information on how to request a sign.



## Rock Lake Improvement Association

The Mission of the Rock Lake Improvement Association is to promote and generate positive action on issues concerning the preservation, protection, and improvement of Rock Lake.

## Girl Scout Troop 7468

We are a Girl Scout troop working to earn our bronze award. A bronze award is a project Girl Scouts complete to make their community a better place. We hope our work inspires you to help turtles in your area.



[gstroop7468@gmail.com](mailto:gstroop7468@gmail.com)

# Girl Scout Troop 7468 Rock Lake Area Turtle Information





Wild  
Turtles  
Are Not  
Pets



Don't poach turtles! It's **illegal** to take a turtle from the wild and keep it as a pet—even if you love them, they're safer in the wild.



If you take them from their natural environment they will **no longer be able to breed**.



**It's dangerous.** They can carry parasites like tapeworms and bacteria like salmonella. They are unpredictable and may bite.



## Common Rock Lake Area Turtles

### Spiny softshell

They normally lay 15–20 eggs and they lay more than one clutch a year.

### Painted

These turtles bite when they are scared.

### Stinkpot

Their babies are the size of a penny.

### Northern/common map

These turtles were named for the lines on their shell, like the contour lines on a map.

### Blanding

They can live up to 83 years.

### Snapping

Their shells are about as long as their tails, 11 and a half inches.



How To  
Help a Turtle  
Crossing  
The Road

Stop and pull over far enough away to not spook the turtle but close enough to quickly assist the turtle.



Very carefully and quietly sneak up on the turtle from behind or it may be spooked and either you or the turtle may get harmed.

If the turtle is already crossing the road pick it up with two hands in the middle of their shell and carry it gently across the road in the way it was going and set it down in a safe place.

**WARNING:** A snapping turtle's head can reach further and they move fast when they bite. Don't grab a snapper by the tail, you could hurt them severely. You can let them bite something like a car mat so that you can pull them across to the other side.

