

Snapping Turtle

Chelydra serpentina

Identification

- 8 – 14 inches.
 - Long tail which is saw-toothed along top.
 - Large head.
 - Carapace dark gray to black.
 - Rear edge of carapace serrated.
 - Small plastron.
 - Hatchlings closely resemble adults.
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- **Habitat** – Snapping Turtles prefer calm ponds and lakes with soft bottoms. They will even enter brackish areas for short periods.
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- **Threats** – Nest predation by raccoons and other predators, cars (see top photo)
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- **Conservation Status** – Snapping Turtle populations appear to be stable.

