

Help save a declining icon
of the Northern Forest!



Leave **Wood Turtles** in the **Wild**.



Wood Turtle

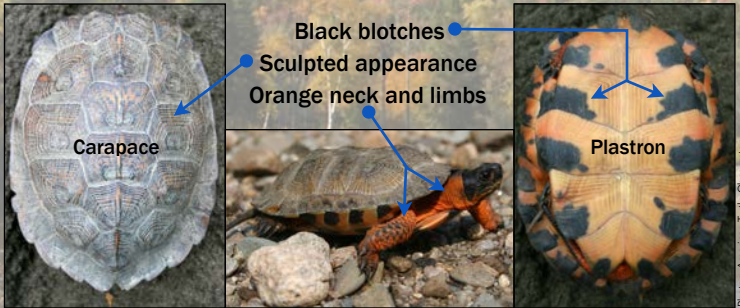
Glyptemys insculpta

If you are lucky enough to find a Wood Turtle, **please leave it in the wild** so that future generations can experience this emblematic and **increasingly rare** creature of the Northern Forest.

Populations are dwindling, many consisting of only a small number of turtles, and **each turtle counts**. Wood turtles do not fare well in captivity and a single turtle taken from the wild can negatively impact a population for decades.

If you find a Wood Turtle, please take photographs, note the location, and report your discovery to your state wildlife agency.

Identification



Wood Turtle Facts

Habitat: Cool, clean rivers and surrounding uplands.

Lifespan: Can live more than **70 years** in the wild!

Sexual Maturity: Cannot reproduce until **15–18 years old**.

Behavior: Overwinter in streams. Spend much of the warm months on land, often turning up in lawns and on roads, but they're not lost!

Major Threats: Poachers, roads, and farm machines.