

Eastern Box Turtle

Terrapene carolina carolina

Identification

- 4.5 – 6 inches.
- Highly domed shell with extremely variable patterns that can incorporate brown, black, yellow, orange.
- Plastron hinge allowing turtle to close itself.
- Males often have red eyes.
- **Habitat** – This is our most terrestrial turtle. Open woodlands and meadow edges are preferred. May soak for long periods in shallow water or mud.
- **Threats** – Nest predation, cars, habitat destruction, mowing (see photo) and other agricultural practices. The large number of people who innocently take box turtles that they find home for pets may have a significant impact.
- **Conservation Status**
Species of Concern

