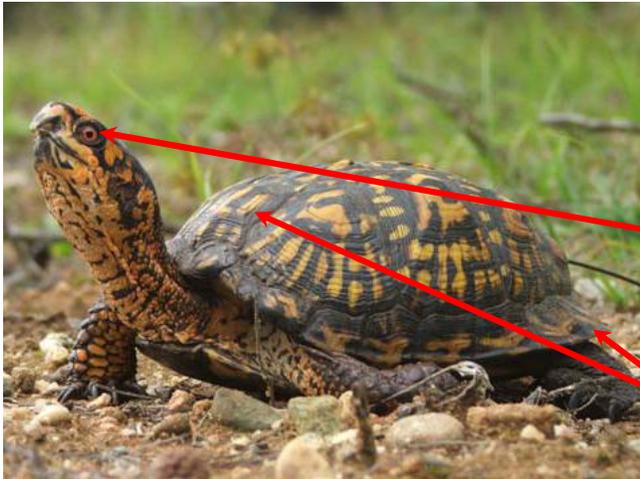
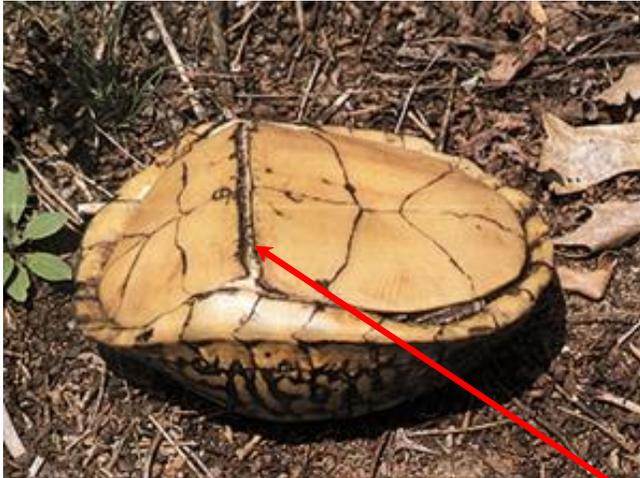


SPECIES IDENTIFICATION



Lower shell hinged closing like a "box"

Orange coloration on their shells, necks and limbs

Males with red eyes (commonly)
Females with brown eyes

Ridged and sculpted shell

Nesting Site



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Motorized Vehicle Use

- If Operation and Maintenance Plan (OMP) activities are necessary, extra care should be used when using heavy machinery or traveling in vehicles through mapped habitat
- Do not drive service vehicles or ATVs in nesting areas

Stream Crossings

- Avoid stream crossings in habitat areas to the extent feasible
- When stream crossings in habitats are necessary, temporary bridges shall be laid down across streams prior crossing by motorized equipment

Vegetation Management

- November 1 through April 1 — Follow OMP and Vegetation Management Plan
- April 2 through October 31 — Follow Guidelines below:

Mowing

- Raise mower blades to 8 to 12 inches above the ground
- Remove turtles from work area. Visually inspect the ground in front of the equipment while working.
- Remove found turtles from the path of vehicles or heavy equipment
- Avoid mowing in nesting areas from June 1 – June 30. Stay at least 250 feet away from nesting turtles

Shrub & Tree Removal

- Avoid vegetation removal along streams or vernal pools (depressional ponds that fill with rain water in the spring and fall) to the extent feasible
- No cutting, filling, or stockpiling of materials shall occur within wetland resource areas or potential or vernal pools, even if the wetlands are seasonally dry

Construction Activities

Excavation—If excavation is required, complete within one day or backfill open trenches daily

E&S Controls —Use only native seed sources for erosion and sedimentation control within 200 feet of rivers, streams, and brooks. Remove any silt fencing at the completion of the work and stabilization.

Found Turtles—Avoid harm to any box turtles found. If any box turtles are found:

- 1) Turtles should be removed from the work area and relocated at a safe distance (250 – 500 feet) by a trained crew member
- 2) Photograph turtle
- 3) Call the contact listed on this page

Who to Contact if Found: Josh Wilson, PWS (Fuss & O'Neill) 860-646-2469 x5303

Info and BMPs taken from the following References:

- Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. 2008. Eastern Box Turtle, *Terrapene carolina carolina*. Endangered and Threatened Species Fact Sheet. Bureau of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division.
- Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. 2007. Massachusetts Forestry Conservation Management Practices for Eastern Box Turtles. Version 2007.1. Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Westborough, Massachusetts, USA.

Notes and Sketch: