

Common Musk Turtle

The Common Musk Turtle lives in freshwater systems like rivers, ponds and lakes in the Eastern United States. The top of their shell, or carapace, is usually a blackish-brown color, and they have yellow stripes that run along their heads and neck. They will eat snails, mollusks, crayfish, insects, and occasionally vegetation. They get their name from the musky, foul smelling liquid they release when they feel threatened by a potential predator, so beware!



To help protect tortoises and turtles...

- Don't take wild turtles home or move them somewhere new- you can greatly reduce a whole population in an area.
- Help them cross the road in the same direction they were going if you can safely do so.
- Don't release unwanted pets into the wild, they often aren't able to live on their own, and can bring diseases to the native population. Instead consider;
 - Taking it back to where you bought it.
 - Donating the animal to a local science center, zoo, or animal sanctuary.

