

# Amphibians of Cass and Clay Counties

## Frogs and Toads



**Boreal Chorus Frog** (*Pseudacris maculata*)

**Description:** Dark line extends from the snout through the eye to the groin; can be green, brown, gray, or reddish; three to five dark stripes down their back that may be broken into spots

**Habitat:** Damp grassy/marshy areas, or damp forests near water

**Food:** Ants, spiders, flies, beetles, aphids, and other insects



**Canadian Toad** (*Anaxyrus hemiophrys*)

**Description:** A large dome behind its eyes; brown to green with darker brown, reddish, or black spots; underside is light with dark flecks

**Habitats:** Wetter habitats; standing water and woodland edges

**Food:** Insects and worms



**Cope's Grey Treefrog** (*Hyla chrysoscelis*)

**Description:** Large toe pads; mottled grey to light green; light spot beneath eye; inner thigh is bright yellow or orange

**Habitat:** Wooded habitats; spends days in tree holes or other secluded areas, and feeds at night

**Food:** Insects and small invertebrates



**Great Plains Toad** (*Anaxyrus cognatus*)

**Description:** Smaller parotoid glands; grey, brown, or greenish coloration; large blotches with white borders; blotches contain several small warts; chest is white with no speckles

**Habitat:** Damp areas in open grasslands and farm fields; digs burrows, back end first

**Food:** cutworms and other crop pests; earthworms and a variety of insects



**Northern Leopard Frog** (*Rana pipiens*)

**Description:** Smooth skin; green, brown, or sometimes yellow-green; large, oval dark spots outlined by a lighter color

**Habitat:** Wet habitats

**Food:** Small invertebrates



**Wood Frog** (*Lithobates sylvaticus*)

**Description:** Varying shades of brown and red; black marking over eyes that looks like a mask

**Habitat:** Woodlands

**Food:** Insects, arachnids, slugs, worms, and snails



**Woodhouse's Toad** (*Anaxyrus woodhousii*)

**Description:** Whitish stripe down the middle of the back; elongated parotoid glands; light brown or yellowish-brown; dark blotches

**Habitat:** Wetlands

**Food:** Sowbugs, scorpions, bees, insect larvae, ants, and spiders



**American Toad** (*Bufo americanus*)

**Description:** Mainly various shades of brown, but can also be red, olive, or grey; underside is yellow or white; skin is tough and warty, short limbs; webbed toes on their hind legs

**Habitat:** Forests, gardens, and agricultural fields

**Food:** Insects and other invertebrates

## Salamanders



**Eastern Tiger Salamander** (*Ambystoma tigrinum*)

**Description:** One of the largest terrestrial salamanders in the U.S.; dark brown, almost black; irregularly marked with yellow to olive colored blotches; belly is an olive-yellow color

**Habitat:** Underground in forests

**Food:** Earthworms, small mice, other amphibians, grasshoppers, moths, flies, spiders, beetles, and cicadas



**Barred Tiger Salamander** (*Ambystoma mavortium*)

**Description:** Large; black with yellow-white blotches or stripes on the sides

**Habitat:** Areas near bodies of water; underground

**Food:** Insects, slugs, and earthworms

Sources:

<http://herpnet.net/northdakota-herpetology/>

[http://dnr.state.mn.us/reptiles\\_amphibians/index.html](http://dnr.state.mn.us/reptiles_amphibians/index.html)

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