



Necturus maculosus

Family Proteidae

- Robust body that is somewhat dorsoventrally compressed
- Short tail with broad laterally compressed fin
- Wide head with blunt/square snout
- 3 pairs of bushy gills behind the head
- Small legs relative to body size
- 4 toes on hindlimbs and forelimbs
- Males have enlarged cloacal glands during breeding season
- Internal fertilization, mating occurs in September and October
- Eggs laid in summer, attached to the undersides of rocks over nests excavated by the female



Notophthalmus viridescens

Family Salamandridae

- Elongated body with long tail
- Relatively long legs
- Two ridges on the head
- NO costal grooves
- Skin slightly rough
- Breeding males have enlarged cloacal glands, hard sexual excrescences on feet and hind legs, and conspicuous crests and tail fins
- Terrestrial eft stage lacks tail fin, they have poisonous skin secretions
- Adults abundant in ponds in spring and summer



Plethodon glutinosus

Family Plethodontidae

- Large body
- Usually 16 costal grooves
- Tail round in cross section
- Males have large **mental glands** on chin during breeding season
- Small round yellow or orange glands on belly and papillose cloacal linings
- Silvery white flecks on dorsal surface
- Lays terrestrial eggs that undergo direct development



Plethodon cinereus

Family Plethodontidae

- Body long and slender
- Neck narrower to barely wider than head
- Eyes large and prominent
- Gular fold prominent
- Tail round in cross section
- Skin smooth
- Legs small and short, toes short and thick
- 18 – 20 costal grooves
- Males have mental glands on chin, swollen nasolabial glands and hedonic glands on tail
- Eggs are laid in rotten logs or underground and are guarded by the female.
- Direct development



Desmognathus fuscus

Family Plethodontidae

- Neck distinctly wider than head due to bulging muscles
- Front of head appears flattened from side
- Eyes not strongly protuberant
- Gular fold well developed
- 14 costal grooves
- Stout body, strong legs
- Rear legs larger than front legs
- Tail thick and fleshy, triangular in cross section
- Tail less than half its total length
- Males have a small mental gland on chin
- Common along rocky streams with lots of leaf debris
- Eggs laid in nests at the water's edge and guarded by the female
- Aquatic larvae stage present



Eurycea bislineata

Family Plethodontidae – Subfamily Spelerpinae

- Head narrow, eyes small
- Gular fold present
- Body slender
- 13 – 16 costal grooves
- Legs are small
- Tail strongly compressed (laterally), long
- Conspicuous mental glands and caudal hedonic glands
- Found at the margins of rocky streams
- Courtship occurs in the water
- Eggs are laid on the undersides of stones, probably attended by female
- Larvae are aquatic



Hemidactylum scutatum

Family Plethodontidae – Subfamily Hemidactylinae

- Snout blunt
- Gular fold distinct
- Body very slender
- 13 – 14 costal grooves
- 4 toes in forelimbs and hindlimbs
- Tail with **basal constriction**
- Venter is enamel white with many small flecks
- Found in sphagnum bogs
- Eggs laid in late spring in nests in clumps of sphagnum moss
- Females guard the eggs
- Aquatic larvae



Gyrinophilus porphyriticus

Family Plethodontidae – Subfamily Spelerpinae

- Conspicuous fold from eye to back of the head
- Gular fold prominent
- 17 – 18 costal grooves
- Hind limbs strongly developed
- Tail oval at base, compressed distally with sharp keel above
- No conspicuous sexual dimorphism
- Active predator of other salamanders
- Found at the margins of large streams
- Eggs and larvae are aquatic
- More commonly found in undisturbed forested areas



Ambystoma maculatum

Family Ambystomatidae

- Head broad
- Gular fold prominent
- Body long and heavy
- 11 – 13 costal grooves
- Largest common salamander in CT
- Eggs are laid in globular masses attached to sticks in water
- Adults migrate to ponds in early spring



Ambystoma opacum

Family Ambystomatidae

- Gular fold prominent
- Body thick and short
- 11 costal grooves
- Ground color black
- Breeding season occurs in the Fall
- Males court individual females on land
- Larvae are aquatic
- Adults found under logs



Ambystoma jeffersonianum

Family Ambystomatidae

- Gular fold conspicuous
- 12 – 13 costal grooves
- Pale blue flecks sometimes present
- Toes long and slender, especially on back feet
- Breeding season is earlier than spotted salamanders
- Breeding occurs more commonly in vernal pools
- Adults migrate to ponds with the first major spring rains
- Eggs laid in firm jelly masses attached to submerged sticks



Ambystoma laterale

Family Ambystomatidae

- 13 costal grooves
- Smaller than *Ambystoma jeffersonianum*
- Distinct blue flecks on dark background
- They are more tolerant of disturbed habitats than *A. jeffersonianum*
- Breeding in swamps and marshes
- Eggs are laid in a scatter matter rather than in distinct clumps