

Rana sylvatica

Wood Frog

Native to Maine

Freshwater
Vernal Pools and Forests

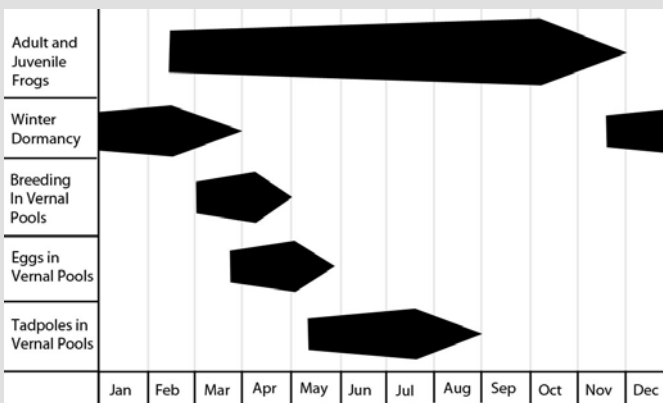
Body Plan and Shape



Dan Hocking

PERMITTED USE

Look for a 3cm - 7cm long frog with a dorsolateral ridge (raised line along the side of back from snout to rear). Toes are not heavily webbed. Color is highly variable from light pinkish brown to nearly black.



A vernal pool is a temporary body of still water that dries up seasonally.

Full View



Dan Hocking

PERMITTED USE

Look for a small frog, with a dark "robber's mask" under and behind the eye. It has a croak that sounds like a "quack."

Life History



Left: Flickr brian.gratwicke Right: Wikimedia Cephas

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In the spring, wood frogs reproduce in vernal pools where eggs and tadpoles are safer from predators. Adults live on the forest floor, often far from water.

Seasonal Behaviors



Dan Hocking

PERMITTED USE

During the spring mating season, male frogs can be heard calling for mates. Females will lay huge egg masses in vernal pools.

Similar Species

There are several species of frog in Maine that have the dorsolateral ridge, including green frogs, leopard frogs and pickerel frogs, however none have the robbers mask.

Did You Know?

Wood frogs are able to survive being completely frozen in the winter by concentrating glucose in their cells which acts similarly to anti-freeze.