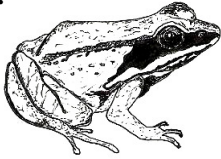


# Municipal Vernal Pool Mapping Project Data Form Spring 2009

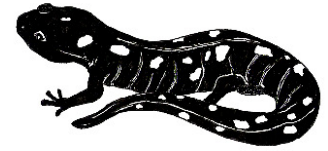
Please refer to reverse side for instruction

1.



Wood Frog Visit   
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Salamander Visit   
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



2. Potential vernal pool number (PVP #): \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Tax map number: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Volunteer Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Is PVP a vernal pool? YES  NO  UNKNOWN  UNABLE TO LOCATE

6. PVP is not a vernal pool, but is it a: FARM POND  DITCH  TIRE RUT  GRAVEL PIT   
ACTIVE BEAVER POND  WETLAND TOO SHALLOW TO BE A VERNAL POOL  OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Pool(s) found that were not marked on map. YES  NO  (Use separate form for each additional pool found and mark on map.)

8. For each species, indicate the number of egg masses counted

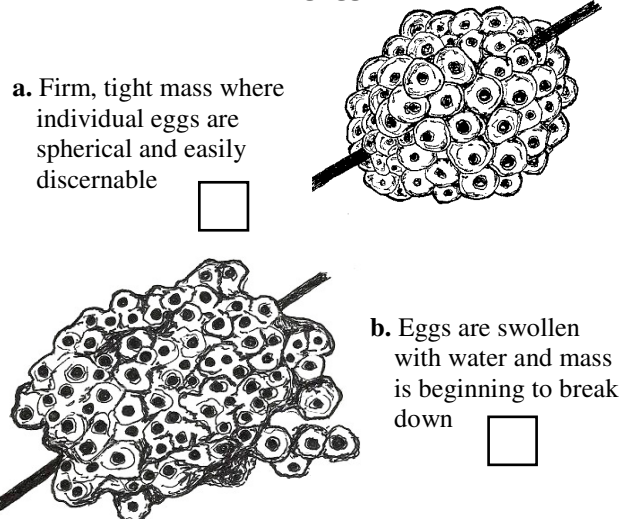
	Indicator Species	Number
EGG MASSES	Wood Frog	
	Spotted Salamander	
	Blue-spotted Salamander	

	Indicator Species	Presence/Absence
LARVAE	Wood Frog	
	Salamander	
ADULTS	Wood Frog	
	Spotted Salamander	
	Blue-spotted Salamander	
	Fairy Shrimp	

9. Are spermatophores present?



10. Condition of wood frog egg masses



11. Photo Documentation

Data forms **MUST** be accompanied by photographs. Include at least one labeled photograph of each adult, egg mass or larvae for each species.

12. General comments and/or other wildlife observations (optional).

## Instructions for Municipal Vernal Pool Mapping Project Data Form

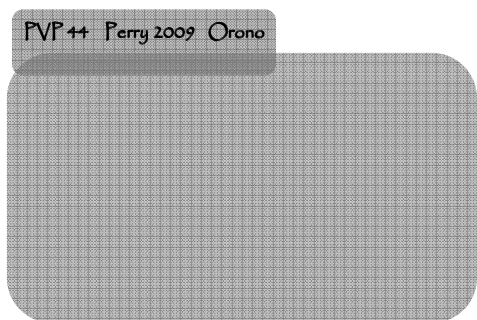
*Field assessments are not permitted on properties without signed permission from the landowner.*

1. When you arrive at a pool, please record the date and make a check in the box next to the wood frog if it is your first visit, and next to the salamander if you are visiting the site for the second time.
2. A potential vernal pool (PVP) number is assigned for each pool and may be found on your map.
3. The property ownership number for each parcel should also be located on your map.
4. It is recommended that you work in **pairs** to conduct field assessments. Please select the person most experienced with field data collection as the contact person. Provide their name, phone number and email address on the data form.
5. Is your PVP a vernal pool, are you unsure, or are you unable to find a pool where you believe the PVP is located?
6. Farm ponds, ditches, active beaver ponds, tire ruts, gravel pits, slow moving streams, and other types of wetlands that may be too shallow, are all examples of features that may be identified as PVPs, but are **NOT** vernal pools.
7. If you encounter additional pools, please mark their location on your map and fill out a separate data form for each one.
8. For each species, indicate the number of egg masses counted and presence or absence of larvae and adults. Please refer to the training materials provided for assistance with egg mass counts.
9. Male salamanders that breed in vernal pools deposit packets of sperm called spermatophores on the pool bottom which are later picked up by females for internal fertilization. During a field assessment if you do not find any salamander egg masses, but spermatophores are observed attached to sticks or on leaf litter, this is an indication that salamanders breed in the pool, but you are too early to count their egg masses. A follow up visit should be scheduled.
10. Wood frog masses are easiest to count shortly after they are laid when eggs appear as tightly packed spheres and individual masses are easily discernable. Using the sketches on the data form as a guide, please indicate the condition of the wood frog egg masses in each pool.
11. Photographic documentation will be used to verify the observations recorded on each data form. Data forms filled out by trained volunteers **MUST** be accompanied by photographs for species identification and habitat verification. Towns are not able to accept data from citizen scientists without photo-documentation. If you do not have access to a digital camera, please work with a volunteer who has access to a camera. For vernal pool species seen, include at least **ONE** photograph of each adult, egg mass or larvae. Photographs will be used to be sure that you identified species correctly.



For each potential vernal pool that is visited, download and include all images within a computer file folder with a name that reflects the pool identification number (PVP #), the observer's last name, the year, and the name of your town. Photos for EACH of the two visits may be included within the same computer folder. Once digital images are downloaded onto a computer please re-name each image to reflect site specific information. Please include (1) title information for each pool that reflects the pool identification number, (2) the subject of the photograph (WF tadpole, SS egg mass, etc.), and (3) whether the photograph was taken on the first or second visit.

### sample computer file name for digital photos



### examples of photo names

- ☑ PVP 44 Fairy Shrimp - 1st visit.JPG
- ☑ PVP 44 SS egg mass a - 2nd visit.JPG
- ☑ PVP 44 SS egg mass b - 2nd visit.JPG
- ☑ PVP 44 WF egg mass - 1st visit.JPG
- ☑ PVP 44 WF egg mass - 1st visit.JPG
- ☑ PVP 44 WF tadpole - 2nd visit.JPG
- ☑ PVP 44 WF adult - 1st visit.JPG

12. (Optional) You may include comments about the pool, surrounding habitat, or additional wildlife observations. Please provide photos of rare, threatened, and endangered species, including ribbon snakes, wood, spotted, or Blanding's turtles.

**When field assessments are complete, please turn in data forms, digital photographs, and field maps to the town office.**