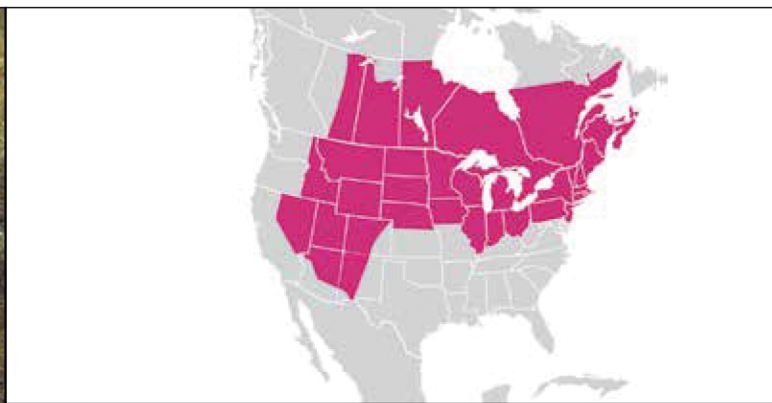


NORTHERN LEOPARD FROG

updated 03/17



Range	Found in most of northern North America except for the Pacific Coast
Habitat	They generally live near ponds and marshes but will sometimes be found in well-covered grasslands as well
Diet (wild)	Northern leopard frogs will eat about anything that they can fit in their mouths. They will sit and wait for prey to go by and then pounce with their powerful legs. They will eat beetles, ants, flies, worms, smaller frogs, small birds, and even garter snakes.
Diet (captivity)	
Description	Length: 3–5 inches. As with most frogs, males are smaller than females. Northern leopard frogs are named for the array of irregularly shaped dark spots on their backs and legs. They are greenish-brown with a pearly white underside and light-colored ridges on either side of their backs.
Lifespan	Wild: 2–4 years
Reproduction	The female lays up to 3,000 eggs in a large flattened mass of gray/black jelly in water. The eggs hatch in 10–20 days into tadpoles. By early August, the tadpoles have gone through metamorphosis and emerge from water as adults. After metamorphosis, sexual maturity is reached in one to three years, depending on conditions. In late April, males will begin calling to attract females. Breeding begins in May.
Behavior	Leopard frogs are mostly nocturnal and tend to take cover in water when startled. They will also let out a screaming call when captured or startled. Males have thickened thumb pads and paired vocal sacs that inflate over their shoulders as they call.
Our animals	1 undetermined sex. Born: Detroit Zoo
Cool stuff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leopard frogs are well-adapted to cold and can be found at elevations up to 11,000 feet (3,350 meters). • Leopard frogs migrate to breeding ponds in the spring and may disperse away from water during the summer to forage in meadows and grasslands. They obtain water by absorbing dew from plants during this time. In the winter they travel back to their “home” pond, a permanent body of water, and overwinter in the mud and organic debris at the bottom. • Leopard frogs do not have distasteful skin secretions. They rely on their quick responses to leap into the water or make erratic hops to escape capture. In areas where they occur with pickerel frogs (<i>Lithobates palustris</i>), leopard frogs have spots that are more squarish, like those of pickerel frogs. Because pickerel frogs have distasteful skin secretions, it is thought that perhaps leopard frogs in those areas are mimicking pickerel frogs to avoid predation.

Phylum
Chordata

Class
Amphibia

Order
Anura

Family
Ranidae

Genus
Lithobates

species
L. pipiens