

Volunteer Spotlight

Tricia Saenger, Nongame Wildlife Observer

Volunteer Tricia Saenger of Temple, N.H., has been reporting her reptile and amphibian observations to New Hampshire Fish and Game's Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program for more than ten years. She and her daughter drive an eight-mile loop on the first wet night of spring, looking for salamanders crossing roads.

"We have found lots of spotted salamanders that way, as well as redbacked salamanders, red efts and, occasionally, two-lined and four-toed salamanders," said Saenger. "We've stopped for a LOT of sticks, pine needles and earthworms, too!"

Saenger does not have any formal background studying reptiles or amphibians. She simply has had a lifelong interest in wildlife. "You can learn a lot just by

looking," she says. "Don't worry too much about correctly identifying everything you find – just try to take good notes and photos.

"I love the opportunity to see wildlife of all kinds. Reporting my observations to N.H. Fish and Game helps to ensure that we can continue to have those opportunities. It's great to feel that I'm helping that effort."

Learn more about the Wildlife Sightings program at nhwildlifesightings.unh.edu.



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