**Red Spotted Garter Snake**

**Native to:** Native to Oregon into Northern Canada on the west Coast

**Predators:**  Birds, Frogs, Turtles, Small Mammals

**Food:**  Fish, Amphibians

**Facts:**.

* Red Spotted Garters grow to be about 1 to 2 feet in length.
* This is the northern most species of snake found in North America.
* Red Spotted Garter Snakes spend their springs and summers generally around lakes, rivers, and streams hunting their prey and swimming from one side to the next.
* Their bright colors on their side warn predators that they are toxic. They don’t actually secrete a toxin though.
* This species of snake over winter in large groups in caves and dens. They stay together for heat and warmth purposes and follow sent trails back to this nesting site each fall.
* They have to eat as much food as they can in the warmer months to be able to go so long without eating in the colder months
* They are considered of Least Concern in the wild.

**Defense Mechanism**

Coloring

**Reproduction:**

Females give birth to 12 to 20 young at the end of the spring

**Lifespan:** Can live for about 15 to 20 yrs

**Handling Tips:**

Our Red Sided Garter is quick moving so have to let him move from hand to hand to be able to hold him.