**Common Snapping Turtle**

**Native to:** South East Canada to he Rock mountains in Colorado and South as far as Florida

**Predators:**  Racoons, Minks, Stoats, Alligators

**Food:**  Any animal they can grab when they are younger they will eat frogs fish and worms when they are full grown they will even eat small ducks.

**Facts:**.

* On Average they grow up to 10 to 18 inches in diameter but can grow a s large as 20 inches. At full size they can reach weights of 25lbs plus.
* They generally do not come up to bask but they will travel from one pond or lake to the next for breeding purposes or if that are is overcrowded with other turtles already.
* Adult males in the generally have no major threat to themselves from other predators.
* In their northern part of their range during winter when water drops below 50 degrees the go into a state of brumation until temperatures increase in spring.
* Common Snappers necks run almost the entire length of their. For their protection the are capable of biting almost the entire distance around the area of their shells.
* A major issue they have faced in the las two decades besides pollution and habitat loss is being prized as a delicacy in Japan and China.

**Defense Mechanisms:**

* Camouflage
* Powerful Bite

**Reproduction:**

Females lay a clutch of eggs sometimes up to 80 eggs between around March and April

**Lifespan:** Can live for about 60 to 80 years but there are even older specimens.

**Handling Tips**

Our Common Snapping Turtle is relatively easy to handle. Make sure you hold him by the back end of his shell supporting his entire body weight.