



## Fowler's toad

*Bufo fowleri*

Kingdom: Animalia  
Division/Phylum: Chordata - vertebrates  
Class: Amphibia  
Order: Anura  
Family: Bufonidae

### FEATURES

Fowler's toad averages two to three inches in length. It has three or more warts or bumps in each of the largest dark spots on the back. The chest and belly are not spotted. The parotoid glands on the upper back touch the ridges behind the eyes. The body is most often brown or gray but may be greenish or brick red. A light stripe in the middle of the back is usually present.

### BEHAVIORS

Fowler's toad lives anywhere it can have access to shallow bodies of water for breeding, moist hiding places and plenty of food, such as in gardens, lawns, woods or fields. This toad is active mainly at night. It breeds from late April to June. The male's call is a prolonged nasal scream. Each female may deposit up to 25,000 eggs. Eggs are laid in long strings, and hatching occurs in about one week. Tadpoles transform into the land-based form from late June through July. This toad eats insects and worms.

### HABITATS

- bottomland forests
- lakes, ponds & reservoirs
- Lake Michigan
- marshes
- peatlands
- rivers & streams
- swamps
- temp water supplies
- wet prairies & fens

### ILLINOIS STATUS

- common
- endangered
- threatened
- native
- exotic

### ILLINOIS RANGE

southern 2/3

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 2006.  
*Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume I: Aquatic Habitats* CD-ROM.