

bright yellow chin and throat, and their charming "smile"! They live very long- the oldest recorded was over 83, and they don't reproduce until they are almost 20 years old. These turtles are very shy- if you spot them in the water they'll likely swim down to the bottom where they'll stay for hours- and on land they'll stay hidden in their shells if spooked.

Some of the biggest threats to these animals is the destruction of their habitat for housing or other urban development projects, and car strikes when crossing roads.

Did you know?

- Male turtles generally have longer tails and longer claws than females.
- Selling turtles under 4 inches in length is illegal! This is a health risk since they can fit in children's mouths easily and transfer diseases.
- It is illegal to remove any wildlife or plants from a National Park
- Litter can attract predators to baby turtles! Clean up pet waste and any trash on the ground.

