

Be on the lookout for Eastern Box Turtles

This is the third year of our Eastern Box Turtle tracking program here in Truro. The Eastern Box turtle is on the Massachusetts state list of rare species as a result of habitat loss, and fatalities while crossing the road – we can all have a role in changing this!

Eastern Box Turtles are most active in the mornings, evenings, and after a soaking rain throughout May and June, but stay out until October.

Like most species of turtles, they are very slow-moving and cross major roadways while traveling, including Route 6. If you are driving and see a box turtle in the road, and can pull over safely, it is helpful to pick the turtle up and place it on the side of the road in the direction it was already traveling.



If you come across an Eastern Box Turtle, alive or dead, we ask that you please take a picture of it. The most helpful pictures are from overhead with a common object placed beside it (like a pencil, hand, or set of keys) to show the scale. Please, email us the photo, and be sure to note your specific location, the date, and time of day. We want to know and better understand the habitat and travels of our Truro Population of turtles. Thank you !

All photos and observations can be sent to the Conservation & Health department at abeebe@truro-ma.gov.