



Southern Toad

Southern Toad *(Anaxyrus terrestris)*

Instant ID

- A ball-shaped amphibian with short front legs and long back legs
- Gray-tan coloration with dark spots containing brown bumps
- Overall warty appearance
- Has large parotid glands (bumps behind the eyes which secrete poison to deter predators)

Native Niches

- Common throughout Florida in areas with seasonal ponds
- Found in scrub oak woods and other habitats where soil is moist and soft for easy digging
- Frequently seen in yards and garden



Southern Toad

Southern Toad *(Anaxyrus terrestris)*

Favorite Foods

- Tadpoles eat aquatic vegetation
- Adults eat insects
- Has a sticky tongue and excellent camouflage to ambush prey

Critter Characteristics

- Toads cannot give people warts
- Hatches from an egg as a tadpole then grows into a toad
- Amphibians can breathe through their skin

Population Protection

- Although the southern toad is still common, the global population of amphibians is in decline
- Keeping water clean is the best way to help amphibians