

# Catoctin Mountain

National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
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22

More than 22 types of amphibians have been documented at Catoctin Mountain Park, such as the Northern slimy salamander (*Plethodon glutinosus*). This caudate is capable of excreting a sticky, glue-like substance from its skin that allows it to slip away from hungry predators.



The presence of water within the upper 18 inches (45.7 cm) indicates that an area of land may be a wetland. You can also identify wetlands by looking for drift lines, flow patterns, flood-related debris, and muddy substrates.

18"

What's in a

Wetland?



These wetlands provide important ecosystem services for the park's streams and rivers, such as reducing erosion and sedimentation.

Ultimately, the wetlands improve water quality for the Upper Monocacy Watershed, which provides drinking water for much of Frederick County.

5.5"

The Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*), whose wings span approximately 3 - 5.5 inches (8-14 cm), pollinate various flowering wetland plants.



A common wetland plant, Eastern skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*), can warm its internal temperature by 45 degrees, allowing it to bloom early in the springtime and attract insects that are drawn to its warmth and putrid odor, such as flies and beetles.

45



126,107

Big Hunting Creek and Owens Creek, the two major streams in Catoctin Mountain Park, drain the 126,107-acre Upper Monocacy watershed.

18 designated forested wetland areas within Catoctin Mountain Park cover over 143 acres of Catoctin's deciduous forests.

143

750

Over 750 species of vascular plants have been identified within the park, including the Cardinal flower (*Lobelia marginalis*). These flowers can grow up to 4 feet (1.2 m) tall and can be found in wetlands, streambanks and swamps.



What do you know about wetlands?

Come to Catoctin Mountain Park to learn more about these fragile and important ecosystems!