



Preliminary Merit Badge Information for Reptile and Amphibian Study Merit Badge

There is a lot to cover in a short amount of time, so we're encouraging scouts to complete a few of the requirements ahead of time if possible. Completing these requirements in advance will allow you to finish the remaining requirements and have your Blue Card signed on the day of the program. If you are not able to complete these requirements, they must be completed at a later date. Once you complete all of the requirements at home, arrangements will be made to review your work and sign your Blue Card.

Please use this Reptile & Amphibian Merit Badge for the program. It can be downloaded from the [Webpage](#). **Complete requirements #1, 3, 7 and 8** ahead of time. We do ask that you focus your research on **animals that live in Illinois, especially Lake County**.

With regards to requirement #8, we do not encourage collecting animals from the wild. If you do not currently have a reptile or amphibian as a pet we suggest if you have a friend who does, spend time helping care for their pet and record the data. If you are still unable to complete this requirement, we ask you to participate in a restoration work day with any local environmental group. Please contact Jill Stites for more details. Here is the link to [Forest Preserve](#) work days.

The following resources may be helpful when researching animals that live in Illinois:

Illinois Extension:

<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/wildlife/directory.cfm>

Lake County Forest Preserve Species Database:

<http://www.lcpd.org/lake-county-species>

We look forward to meeting you and helping you complete your badge. If you have any questions, please contact Jill Stites at jstites@lcpd.org or 847-968-3323.