

# What's a Vernal Pool??

What's a Vernal Pool you ask??

The word vernal comes from the Latin word for spring. Vernal pools therefore are seasonal pools of water that are found only for a short time during the springtime. These amazing pools are a critical habitat and are



fascinating for so many reasons. They teem with life at their peak providing a vital breeding ground for a wide variety of amphibians and invertebrates. Some species within vernal pools are threatened or endangered. The causes for the threats arise from agriculture, urbanization, changes in hydrology, climate change, and improperly managed grazing by livestock. Vernal pools are a wonderful sign of spring. They are a host to a plethora of unique plants and animals that, in some cases, aren't found anywhere else on the planet. So head on out and explore. Find a vernal pool in the woods near you! Check out the local inhabitants and listen carefully for their songs!

