

GIVE TURTLES A "BRAKE" THIS SPRING!

Ontario's turtles have started emerging from the depths of their cold, muddy hibernation sites and are eagerly soaking up the spring sun. All of Ontario's turtles are '**species at risk**', they are under threat from habitat loss, road mortality and nest predation.

If you encounter turtles on the road this spring please give them a "brake".

For most turtles, pull over, pick up the turtle and place it in the ditch in the direction it was traveling. For a snapping turtle, a different technique is needed.

Watch this 3 minute video for tips to safely move a snapping turtle.



What if you find an injured or deceased turtle? If safe, stop and pick up the turtle. Note the exact location and call the **Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre** at **705.741.5000** right away. They will connect you with a local volunteer who can transport the turtle to the Ontario Turtle Hospital. It may be possible to collect eggs from deceased female turtles. **Do not put the turtle in water, rinse its wounds, or give it food.**

You may want to keep a kit ready in your car. Have a bin (with drilled holes in the lid), rubber or medical gloves, and an old towel for cushioning the turtle!