

Revised 9-1-2021

Retrieved 8/29/21 from CT DEEP website Fact Sheet Common Snapping Turtle

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Wildlife/Fact-Sheets/Common-Snapping-Turtle>

Key excerpts refute several key points in GEI Ecology Summary

They inhabit almost any permanent or semi-permanent body of water

Snapping turtles can be found in a wide variety of aquatic habitats, preferably with slow-moving water and a soft muddy or sandy bottom.

Snapping turtles rarely leave their aquatic habitat except during the breeding season, at which time females travel . . . in search of a place to dig a nest and lay eggs. Selected nest sites include banks (e.g. of watercourses)

They survive winters in Connecticut by hibernating when temperatures dip below 41°F. They burrow into mud and leaf debris in shallow water or under logs and overhanging banks,

Snapping turtles generally reach maturity at 8 to 10 years and can live up to 40 years or more. They typically occupy home ranges of 4 to 22 acres, depending on the size of the wetland. Snapping turtles rarely leave their aquatic habitat except during the breeding season or to reach new habitat to avoid overcrowding, pollution, and habitat destruction/desiccation