

# Western Painted Turtle



The endangered Western Painted Turtle is the only remaining native turtle on Vancouver Island. Since 2008, Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT) has undertaken habitat restoration and monitoring activities to help conserve turtles and their habitats.

Females come on land to lay their eggs. You may see them wandering on lawns or gardens, looking for a warm, bare patch of ground in which to dig a nest. The clutch of 8 -12 eggs will hatch in the fall, but the young will dig themselves out of the nest the following spring.



HAT biologists have equipped a small number of turtles with radio-tags to learn more about their movements and habitat use. A female turtle, tagged at Swan Lake, recently migrated to the allotment gardens and has nested in a potato bed! If you encounter this turtle, please don't disturb her. **If you see this or another turtle digging a nest, please report the observations.**



To report observations, please contact us:  
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[kristiina@hat.bc.ca](mailto:kristiina@hat.bc.ca) or 250-727-9708 (Kristiina)  
For more information, visit HAT's website: <http://www.hat.bc.ca>

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