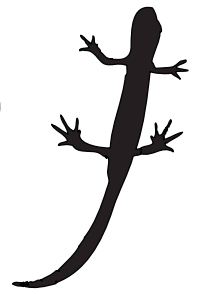


NEWTS



There are a 3 native species of Newt to look out for, all are found in Nottingham City, but the most common is the Smooth (or Common) Newt *Triturus vulgaris*. There is also a smaller Newt called the Palmate Newt because of its big feet (or big palms like your hands) in breeding season. The biggest of the 3 Newts is the Great Crested Newt; it's not the only Newt to develop a crest along it's back in breeding season, but it's the most dramatic looking due to it's size and the jagged edges of the crest.

TOP NEWT FACTS

- Smooth Newts live for an average of 6 years but can live as long as 20 years!
- Male Smooth Newts and Great Crested Newts develop a crest in breeding season
- All newts rarely visit ponds and water except in breeding season
- Unlike frogs and toads, Newts lay single eggs in folded leaves.
- Baby Newts are called "Efts"
- Newts are largely Nocturnal

HOW TO RECOGNISE YOUR NEWTS...

Smooth Newt

Males grow a wavy crest in breeding season

Grows to 10cm



Round black spots along belly

Yellow underside

Photo (C) Chris Bradbury

Great Crested Newt

- Grows to 16cm
- Bright yellow belly
- Irregular black spots along the belly
- Males grow a jagged crest in breeding season - with gap at the base of the tail

photo (c) Alex Eames



Know your Newt...

- Female newts are hard to distinguish what species they are as they are all mostly brown
- All male newts grow crests in breeding season, Great Crested Newts have big jagged crests, smooth newts have wavy crests, and palmate newts have a small smooth ridge
- Great Crested Newts are largely the biggest Newts, Palmates are the smallest
- Great Crested Newts and Smooth Newts get yellow bellies, Palmate Newts have a pale, pinky belly

Palmate Newt

- No crest in breeding season, instead males have a ridge along their back and their back feet get really big, dark and webbed and a pointy end to the tail
- Grows to 9cm
- Pale belly - almost pink

