

## [Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife](#)

### SPECIES SPOTLIGHTS

[Home](#) → [Fish & Wildlife](#) → [Wildlife](#) → [Species Information](#) → [Reptiles & Amphibians](#) → Eastern Ribbonsnake

# Eastern Ribbonsnake

## *Sample*

### On this page:

- [Distinguishing Characteristics \(#characteristics\)](#)
- [Status and Distribution in Maine \(#status\)](#)
- [Habitat \(#habitat\)](#)
- [Diet \(#diet\)](#)
- [Seasonal Changes \(#changes\)](#)
- [Natural History Notes \(#notes\)](#)
- [Share Your Sighting \(#share\)](#)



Photo: Trevor Persons

## Distinguishing Characteristics



Photo: Trevor Persons

- Medium-sized, approximately 16 to 35 inches in length
- Three light yellow stripes contrast against a dark background
- Slender body, with long thin tail comprising ~1/3 of total body length
- Small spot of light yellow or off-white in front of each eye
- Dorsal scales keeled (longitudinal raised ridge along midline of each scale)
- Commonly confused with common gartersnake

[Back to top \(#\)](#)

## Status and Distribution in Maine

- State Special Concern; Species of Greatest Conservation Need
- Uncommon
- Southern and central regions

[Back to top \(#\)](#)

## Habitat



Photo: Trevor Persons

- Shallow and semi-permanent wetlands with abundant emergent and shrubby vegetation, including large vernal pools, shrub swamps, wet meadows, bogs, and small marshy ponds

[Back to top \(#\)](#)