



**MOLE SALAMANDER**



**SPOTTED SALAMANDER**



**TIGER SALAMANDER**

# POND SALAMANDERS



Many kinds (species) of amphibians require wetlands in which to lay eggs so their young (larvae) can grow and develop. In the Aiken, SC area, there are four closely related species of salamanders whose individuals spend most of their lives in forests, but migrate to small wetlands to lay eggs. These species are the marbled salamander, the mole salamander, the tiger salamander, and the spotted salamander.

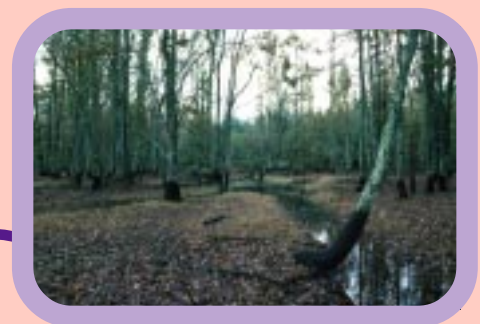
All four of these species have long life spans for such tiny animals. Some spotted salamanders may live more than 20 years! Studies at the Savannah River Ecology Lab have shown that some individuals of all of these species can live up to ten years in the wild. Most of a salamander's life is spent on land, usually underground in shaded, moist, wooded habitats. When adults are ready to breed, they migrate on rainy nights to seasonal wetlands. These wetlands, because they dry occasionally, usually do not have fish. This is very important from a salamander's point of view, because a fish can eat all its babies!



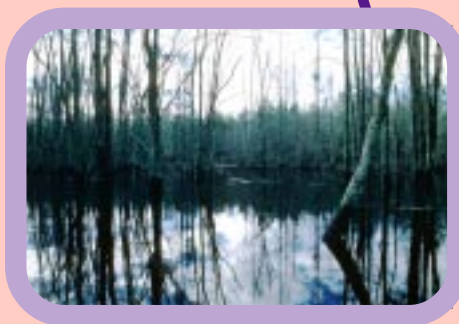
*This information is provided as a public service by the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory Outreach office and the Student Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation program (SPARC).*



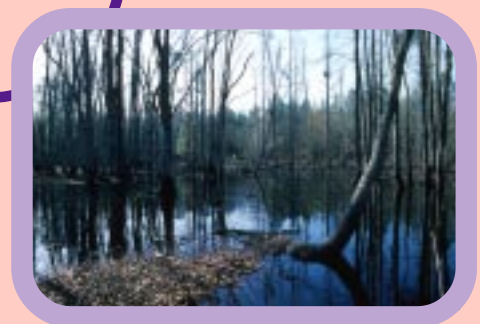
**SUMMER**



**FALL**



**SPRING**



**WINTER**

**(Photos by David Scott)**