

Green Anole



GARDEN EARTH
NATURALIST
ECO-SERVICE CARDS

GREEN ANOLE

IDENTIFICATION CLUES



- ◆ bright green; can change to brown in seconds for camouflage
- ◆ white belly and lips
- ◆ 5 to 8 inches long, slender body and tail
- ◆ eyes can move independently
- ◆ pads on feet allow to cling to many surfaces

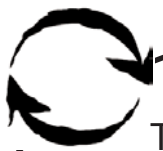


Where to Look

Green Anoles need shade and moisture and can be found in trees, shrubs, on walls and fences in forests and gardens.

What It Eats.

The green anole eats spiders, flies, crickets, small beetles, moths, butterflies, small slugs, worms, ants and termites. It only notices prey that is moving. It gets most of its water from the dew on plants.



Life Cycle

The female lays a single egg and buries it in moist leaf litter, hollow logs or the soil. She will lay one egg every two weeks during breeding season. She may lay up to 15-18 eggs during the summer. The female does not stay with the egg or care for the young that will hatch in five to seven weeks.

Who Eats It?

Cats, birds and snakes eat anoles. Children are also a threat. They are so cute, it is almost irresistible for children to refrain from trying to catch them.



Did You Know...

To show dominance, the male anole will bob its head up and down doing “push ups” and flare its dewlap into a big pink bubble. It’s tail comes off with mild force and remains twitching to trick predators.

Role in the Ecosystem

Anoles make an important contribution to the balance of arthropods and spiders in the forest.