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**South Carolina State Parks**

at 16:00:01 on 2/12/2013 UTC · 🌐

Who knows our state amphibian? Who has actually seen one? With its bright yellow spots, the spotted salamander is quite striking, but seldom seen. That's because most of the time, it stays under downed wood or in burrows underground. But on rainy nights in February, males and females converge at shallow, sometimes temporary, ponds for a courtship. The female will later lay about 200 clear, round jelly eggs, bound together by more jelly into soccer ball-size masses, which she attaches to aquatic plants. At Paris Mountain State Park and other upstate areas, these masses of eggs are visible underwater for one to two months, after which the larval salamanders spend two to four more months in these ponds. Protecting freshwater wetlands is key to the survival of the spotted salamander. If you're near one of these ponds in the next few months, look closely!



**Jill Rothman** what are the red ones called? well guess could google it LOL

at 16:09:24 on 2/12/2013 UTC