

The Gopher Tortoise: The Challenge.

The gopher tortoise is a species in decline and warrants additional protection rangewide on both a state and federal level.

It is a species that lives a long life, reaches sexual maturity at over ten years of age, produces relatively small clutches, experiences low recruitment, and suffers from an upper respiratory tract disease, high levels of predation and loss of habitat.

Severe losses in the western half of its range have resulted in the gopher tortoise being listed as Federally Threatened in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

The Gopher Tortoise: Take Action.

1. **Accept**
2. **Membership**
3. **Donate**
4. **Share**

Accept the challenge to protect the gopher tortoise by becoming a member through a donation. Share online that you became a member to show the world that we can defeat any **CHALLENGE**.



It's easy to recognize the decline of the gopher tortoise;

[The Challenge]

is finding people to do something about it.



“ Everything affecting the gopher tortoise's habitat affects the tortoise and eventually affects all other organisms in its ecosystem. Efforts to save the gopher tortoise are really a manifestation of our desire to preserve intact, significant pieces of the biosphere.

We must preserve the gopher tortoise and other species in similar predicaments, for if we do not, we lose a part of our humanity, a part of our habitat, and ultimately our world.”

—Dr. George W. Folkerts,
Auburn University, Alabama

Gopher Tortoise Council: Contact Us.

Email:

gophertortoisecouncil.contact@gmail.com

Web:

GopherTortoiseCouncil.org



Gopher Tortoise Council

Gopher Tortoise Council
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611
GopherTortoiseCouncil.org



Gopher Tortoise Council: Challenge Met.

The Gopher Tortoise Council was formed in 1973 by a group of biologists and others concerned about the range-wide decline of the gopher tortoise.

The Council offers:

- professional advice for management, conservation and protection of gopher tortoises,
- encourage the study of the life history, ecology and management of gopher tortoises,
- conducts active public information and conservation education programs,
- and seeks effective protection of the gopher tortoise through out the southeastern United States.

The Council supports environmental education programs. Through the generous donations of many of our members, we have contributed funds for the purchase of critical habitat for the gopher tortoise. We have also contributed to the financial support of research projects involving reproduction, home range and feeding studies in the gopher tortoise.



The Gopher Tortoise: Research Needed.

Many questions about gopher tortoises remain unanswered. How long do gopher tortoises live? How do gopher tortoises select mates? How much land is needed to provide adequate habitat for a healthy gopher tortoise population? If gopher tortoises disappear, what will happen to other animals?

Researchers are trying to answer these questions and others to ensure that the gopher tortoise and other unique components of the United States are preserved for generations to come.

You can accept the **CHALLENGE** to help save the gopher tortoise by becoming a member.

Challenge Met



Gopher Tortoise Council: Membership.

We **CHALLENGE** you to become a member and show your dedication to restoring the gopher tortoise population.

Your membership will support the Council to continue to develop conservation plans, provide resources for landowners, assist producers implement conservation activities on their lands and more – all of which will help end the decline of the gopher tortoise.

Your support will benefit the gopher tortoise, other native species and the environment as a whole.

Levels

- \$300 Life Membership
- \$75 Sustaining Member
- \$40 Contributor
- \$50 Corporation or Society
- \$25 Regular Member
- \$15 Student

Benefits

- Subscription to the Gopher Tortoise Council's newsletter, "The Tortoise Burrow"
- Early access to information on conservation efforts, awards, meetings, etc.

