How can I contribute to reptile and amphibian conservation?

_Brought to you by Carolina WISE_

At Home
★ **Keep your cats indoors:** Cats are extremely effective predators, and kill far more animals than they bring back for you to see.
★ **Don’t release pet amphibians or reptiles into the wild:** Nonnative pets can spread deadly diseases to native species or become invasive.
★ **Don’t flush medicine down the toilet:** Medicine may remain in the water supply even after wastewater treatment, and can alter animal behavior if it enters local waterways.

In the Garden
★ **Plant native plants:** Plants provide shelter for reptiles and amphibians, and food for their insect prey.
★ **Create a compost pile:** Reptiles and amphibians can find shelter and food in the compost, and you can use the compost you create to fertilize your garden!
★ **Use fewer pesticides and herbicides:** Pesticides concentrate as they travel up the food chain, and herbicides can easily enter an amphibian’s permeable skin.
★ **Keep your local ponds and waterways clean:** Don’t litter and use fertilizer sparingly to prevent fertilizer runoff and eutrophication of water bodies.

...and Beyond!
★ **Support environmental legislation at the local, state, and national levels:** You’re all already or almost old enough to vote! Support candidates who fight for environmental conservation.
★ **Educate others on the role of amphibians and reptiles in the ecosystem.**
★ **Support your local wild spaces:** Wide expanses of wilderness are great for biodiversity, but even small local woods or parks can be important refuges for wildlife.
★ **Join your local conservation group, or donate to larger conservation efforts such as amphibianark.org and the IUCN.**
★ **Amphibians are ecosystem indicators:** Actions taken to protect ecosystems protects the amphibians, reptiles, and other wildlife within.
Interesting Websites:

For Reptiles and Amphibians
Herps of NC (http://herpsofnc.org/)
Herptiles in Your Backyard (https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/reptiles-and-amphibians-in-your-backyard)
How to Attract Herptiles (https://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Conserving/documents/InvitingReptilestoYourBackyard.pdf)
Listen to Some Weird Bird Sounds (https://www.xeno-canto.org/)
Life is Short, but Snakes are Long (http://snakesarelong.blogspot.com/)
Society for the Study of Reptiles and Amphibians (https://ssarherps.org/)
Tetrapod Zoology (http://tetzoo.com/)

For All Life
Onezoom Tree of Life Explorer (http://www.onezoom.org/)
(http://www.onezoom.org/life/@Sauropsida=639642?img=best_any&anim=flight#x1546,y232,w4.1255)
IUCN (https://www.iucnredlist.org/)
Inaturalist (https://www.inaturalist.org/)
Invasive Species Database (http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/)
Real Monstrosities (http://www.realmonstrosities.com/)
Macaulay Library (https://www.macaulaylibrary.org/)
Biology/Ecology Papers (http://www.bioone.org/)
Common Descent Podcast (https://commondescentpodcast.wordpress.com/)
Encyclopedia of Life (https://eol.org/)
Google Scholar (https://scholar.google.com/)
Tree of Life Web Project (http://tolweb.org/tree/home.pages/links.html)

Thank you for being a wildlife ally!