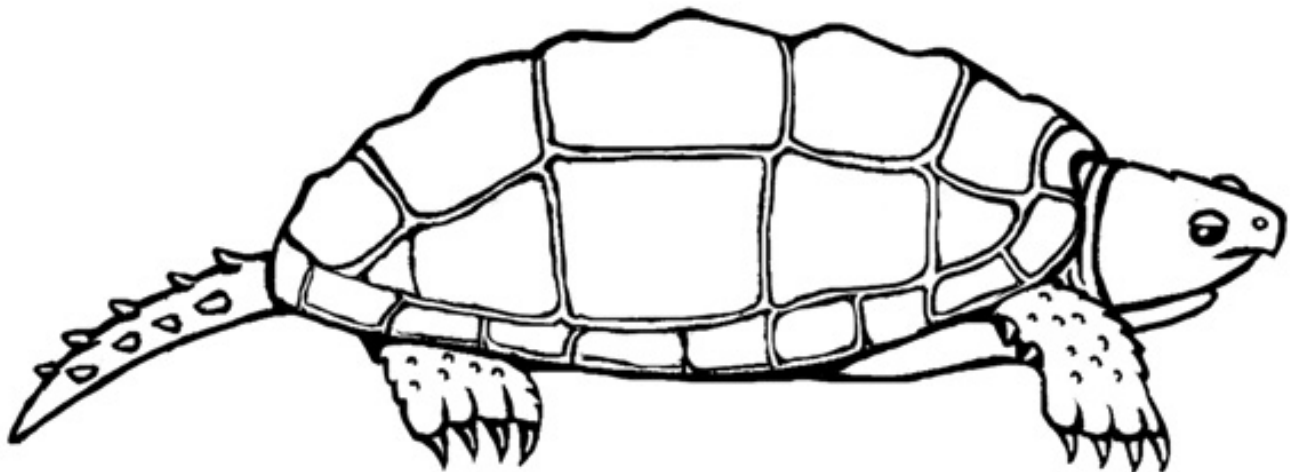


# Common Snapping Turtle

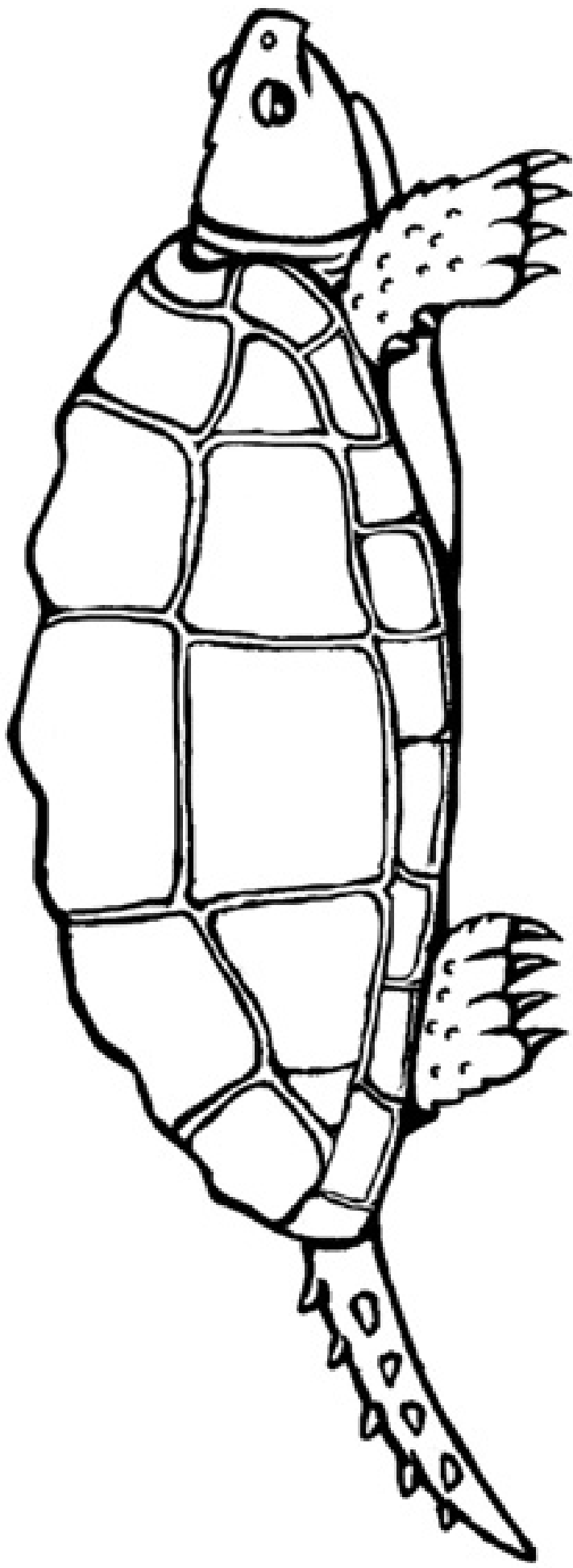
*Chelydra serpentina*

Snapping turtles are found all over the U.S. east of the Rocky Mountains. They live in freshwater ponds, lakes, wetlands, rivers, streams, ditches and coastal marshes with brackish water (slightly salty). They grow up to 20" long with a big head, strong jaws, and a long neck they can extend quickly. They will bite if bothered. They have a long, jagged tail and a large greenish brown to black shell. They eat plants and meat (omnivores). Females come on shore to find a sandy place to lay eggs. She digs a nest with her back legs and lays 20-60 eggs, covers it over and goes back to the pond. The eggs hatch in about 2 months. They can live more than 25 years though are often killed by cars crossing roads to lay eggs.



# Common Snapping Turtle

*Chelydra serpentina*



Blow up 200% to reach real size (20"). You will have to use two sheets of paper the long way and tape them together.