

# The Barton Springs Salamander

## *Eurycea sosorum*



**Barton Springs** is home to two species of aquatic salamanders which can't be found anywhere else in the world– the Austin Blind Salamander and the Barton Springs Salamander.

### Some interesting facts about the Barton Springs Salamander:

- While observed for decades, it wasn't recognized as a distinct species until 1993
- It is aquatic for its entire life
- It is found only in four hydrologically connected spring sites in Zilker Park (Upper Barton Springs, Parthenia or the Main Spring, Eliza Springs, and Old Mill Spring), which is considered by some scientists to be the smallest range of any vertebrate in North America. The salamanders inhabit the outflows of those springs and are often found under rocks or cobble.
- The salamanders measure only ½ to 3 inches long
- Their diet is made up of small aquatic invertebrates
- They exhibit a vast color range, including: pink, cream, grey, yellowish-brown, and purple
- YOU make a difference to these salamanders! By conserving water in your home and protecting your watershed, you can help keep Austin's favorite amphibian healthy

For more information on the Barton Springs Salamander, visit:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/salamanders>

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/species/bartonspringssalamander/>