Field Trips are free and open to the public. (Mark your calendar!)

1  NEXT FIELD TRIPS

Butterflies of Bauer-Brockway Barrens (Jackson Co.)
Sunday, May 19
10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The best place in the state to look for early butterflies in May is Jackson County. Butterfly Expert Mike Reese (who runs the award-winning wisconsinbutterflies.org website) will lead us in finding and observing many scarce and unusual species, many that only fly in May!

We hope to find all 5 of the state’s Elfins, including the very rare (and State Threatened) Frosted Elfin. We should find Olympia Marble, Gorgone Checkerspot, Dreamy and Sleepy Duskywings, etc. Over the past 9 years we have averaged 21 species. Bring binoculars if you have them, close-focusing ones work best. (A few extra pairs of binoculars are available.) Also, bring a bag lunch and water. A hat, long pants and long sleeves are recommended.

Meet in Jackson Co. at 10:30 a.m. at the corner of West Bauer Road and Brockway Road. We will butterfly until 3:00 p.m.

DIRECTIONS: From the intersection of I-94 and Hwy 54 in Black River Falls, go east on Hwy 54 approximately 3.8 miles to Brockway Road. Turn right on West Bauer Road and drive 3.8 miles to the intersection with North Brockway Road. (This area is about 2 1/4 hours northwest of Madison via I-94.)

Participants must PRE-REGISTER for this trip by either calling Mike Reese at (920) 647-0196, or include your phone number in an email to mikereese@wisconsinbutterflies.org (so we can contact you in case of postponement or cancellation due to weather).
Field Trips are free and open to the public. Mark your calendar!

**BUTTERFLIES AND WILDFLOWERS OF PLEASANT VALLEY CONSERVANCY**

Saturday, June 16, 2018
10 a.m.– Noon.

Pleasant Valley Conservancy is a beautiful state natural area situated in the Driftless Area, with steep goat prairies, oak savanna, and a large, high quality marsh. This time of year we hope to see Baltimore Checkerspots and perhaps some wetland skippers. Other possible butterfly species include swallowtails, Silvery Checkerspot, fritillaries, and blues. All of these butterflies will have many wonderful native plants to nectar on at this time of year. Led by Dr. Douglas Buege and Tom and Kathy Brock. Long pants, a hat, water, and hiking shoes are recommended. Bring binoculars—the closer they focus, the better! (We have a few extra binoculars.) If you would like, bring along a bag lunch for after the field trip. (This is a joint trip of SWBA with Madison Audubon and The Prairie Enthusiasts.) Contact leaders only if you have a question about the trip: Douglas at (608) 441-9833 or Tom at (608) 238-5050 or tdbrock@charter.net

**DIRECTIONS:** (4554 Pleasant Valley Road, Black Earth) Heading south into downtown Black Earth follow County Hwy F as it turns right (west). After a mile or so, F turns left (south). Continue on F for another 3 3/4 miles turning left onto Pleasant Valley Road. Drive 3/4 mile (past the buildings on the right) to the state natural area sign. Park off the road.

**UPCOMING TRIP:**

Saturday, June 22: Butterflies and Wildflowers of Cherokee Marsh. Led by Karl and Dorothy Legler, Jan Axelson and Peter Fissel.

**DETAILS ARE ONLINE AND WILL BE IN THE JUNE NEWSLETTER.**

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**2 APRIL 24 SWBA MEETING**

Jay Watson, the Terrestrial Insect Ecologist with the Natural Heritage gave a presentation on the Endangered Swamp Metalmark. This information will help SWBA determine how to best help this
Endangered species. Swamp Metalmarks were introduced at Riveredge but died out in 2014. The best news is that there are still two colonies known in the state. Twenty-five people attended the meeting. Dorothy Legler provided the treats. Officers were elected:

Douglas Buege, President;
Karl Legler, Vice-President;
Fred Dike, Treasurer;
Dorothy Legler, Secretary.

3 LIST OF 2019 SWBA BUTTERFLY FIELD TRIPS
Please put these butterfly field trips on your calendar!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>FIELD TRIP TITLE</th>
<th>LEADER(S)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Butterflies of Bauer Brockway Barrens (Jackson Co.)</td>
<td>Mike Reese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>Butterflies and Wildflowers of Pleasant Valley Conservancy</td>
<td>Douglas Buege, Kathie and Tom Brock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>Butterflies of Cherokee Marsh</td>
<td>Karl &amp; Dorothy Legler, Jan Axelson, Peter Fissel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Butterflies and Dragonflies of Swamp Lovers Preserve</td>
<td>Tod Highsmith, Karl and Dorothy Legler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>July 6</td>
<td>Butterflies of Sandhill Wildlife Area (Wood Co.)</td>
<td>Ron Arnold</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Madison Butterfly Count</td>
<td>Leglers, Peter Fissel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>Butterflies and Flowers of Kalscheur Oak Savannah</td>
<td>Douglas Buege, Rich Henderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>Butterflies of Yahara Heights NEW</td>
<td>Ginny Nelson and Pam Skaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>August 3</td>
<td>Butterflies of the Avoca and Blue River Area</td>
<td>Douglas Buege</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>August 10</td>
<td>Butterflies of Sauk-Prairie Recreation Area NEW</td>
<td>Leglers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 RECENT BUTTERFLIES REPORTED ON wisconsinbutterflies.org
So far this year 22 butterfly species have been reported in the state. The commonest butterfly seems to be the Red Admiral, which by May 5 had a cumulative count of 440 individuals seen. That is the best total since 2012 which saw a massive invasion of Red Admirals. This year there are not as many as in 2012, but they are the most widespread of the past 7 years: 70% of reports include a Red Admiral sighting!

Here is the list of species seen so far in 2019 (butterflies with an asterisk only fly in the spring. Others have a another brood later in summer):

- Milbert's Tortoiseshell
- Compton Tortoiseshell
- Mourning Cloak
- Eastern Comma
- Red Admiral
- Cabbage White
- American Lady
- Black Swallowtail
- Gray Comma
- Olympia Marble*
- Spring Azure*
- Painted Lady
- Common Buckeye
- Green Comma
- Brown Elfin*
- Hoary Elfin*
- Harvester
- Juvenal's Duskywing*
- Satyr Comma
- Henry's Elfin*
- Eastern Pine Elfin*
- Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Keep sending reports to wisconsinbutterflies.org
5  THE INSECT APOCALYPSE IS HERE!
What does it mean for the rest of life on Earth?
This article tells the story of the recent realization among entomologists that insects overall (and other species) have been seriously declining for decades, and the dire impending consequences for humans. (Keep in mind that unlike much of continental Europe, NABA, here in North America, has had a program of monitoring the numbers of butterflies with hundreds of counts going back more than 30 years. Here in Wisconsin we are extremely fortunate to have the counts of Ann and Scott Swengel which have elucidated what has been happening to many Wisconsin butterflies.)
To see the article click on this link: https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/27/magazine/insect-apocalypse.html
Also see the next article on the comprehensive U.N. report that was just released a few days ago.

6  THE U.N. REPORT ON EXTINCTION
This comprehensive new Report, entitled Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), indicates that more than one million species of plants and animals are at risk of extinction!
The IPBES Report is based on a detailed and systematic review of about 15,000 scientific papers and government reports that assess changes over the past five decades. These documents were compiled and analyzed by 145 experts, with additional input from another 310 contributing authors, from 50 countries over three years. The Report, which is 1,500 pages long, provides an exhaustive expert analysis of what is known about the relationships between economic development and the loss of species. Here is a U.N. summary. The report will be printed later this year.

7  How Long Wings Help Huge Moths Evade Bat Attacks
More than 50 years ago biologist Paul Erlich proposed that interacting species, such as predator and prey, or caterpillar and food plant co-evolve, that is, each interacting species effects the evolution of the other as they coevolve over time. This was always somewhat controversial until a few years ago an elaborate study of butterflies (the Whites) was able to trace the genetic consequences, of the war between caterpillars and food plants, in minute detail over tens of millions of years. This article discusses another of the myriad instances of co-evolution -- between some moths and bats.
To see the article click on this link:

8  ANN SWENGEN PROVIDES 3 NEW GUIDES TO BUTTERFLY SITES IN WISCONSIN: Northern Bogs, Hogback Prairie and Leola Marsh.

ABSTRACTS:
BUTTERFLIES TO LOG, IN AND AROUND NORTHERN WISCONSIN BOGS:
Bogs (also known as peatlands) in northern Wisconsin host a variety of interesting butterfly species and also take you on a trip back in time. Not only do you get to visit a habitat less affected by modern civilization, but you are also treated to the amazing story of plants and animals left behind as the glaciation of the last Ice Age retreated northward. Some species living in bogs were left behind high and dry, or as I prefer to say, “sunk and dunked” in the peatland ecosystem, even as their primary range is much farther north. Please refer back to “The Fascinating Butterflies of Northwestern Wisconsin Bogs” (2009) on SWBA’s website for the basics of classifying bogs and pointers for finding and tracking – and coping with the flightiness of – bog butterflies. Here I’d like to specify some bogs to visit in other parts of northern Wisconsin, and add what I’ve learned about these species in the intervening years, with updated timing information. DOWNLOAD PDF

HEAVENLY FINDS ATOP WISCONSIN’S HOGSBACK PRAIRIE:
This is a guide to butterfly finding at Hogback Prairie State Natural Area in southwestern Wisconsin. This site contains a magnificent long ridge of
native, never tilled tallgrass prairie. A thriving population of the prairie-specialist Regal Fritillary is readily findable here. This guide also discusses other specialist butterfly species that have been found here. Another interesting feature of this site is the opportunity to observe a butterfly behavior known as hilltopping. This guide provides detailed information on when, where, and how to look for butterflies here, based on surveys by Ann and Scott Swengel. **DOWNLOAD PDF**

**A MOST SURPRISING WISCONSIN BUTTERFLY DESTINATION, LEOLA MARSH. WHY LOOK FOR BUTTERFLIES HERE?:** This is a guide to butterfly finding at Leola Marsh Wildlife Area in central Wisconsin, based on surveys by Ann and Scott Swengel. This site consists of several tracts of old field managed for Greater Prairie-Chickens. This site has a fabulous grassland bird fauna. But it also has butterflies of interest. The localized species of most interest is Purplish Copper. Other species of interest include Bronze Copper and Silver-bordered Fritillary. This guide provides detailed information on when, where, and how to look for butterflies here, based on surveys by Ann and Scott Swengel. **DOWNLOAD PDF**

**NOTE:** These guides to locations can also be downloaded from SWBA's website (under the Butterfly Watching menu).

### 9 SWBA/NABA BUTTERFLY COUNTS 2019 SCHEDULE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNT NAME</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>THIS YEAR WILL BE THE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mud Lake</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Columbia Co.</td>
<td>31st year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oconto</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oconto Co.</td>
<td>5th year</td>
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<td>Madison</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Dane Co.</td>
<td>29th year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trempealeau</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>July 10</td>
<td>Trempealeau Co.</td>
<td>30th year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dubuque (Wis. portion)</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>Grant Co.</td>
<td>17th year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Kettle Moraine</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>Fond du Lac Co.</td>
<td>23nd year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are similar to Christmas Bird Counts. This is a good way to gain more experience with a range of butterflies. Whether experienced or novice, you are always welcome to participate. To join in, or if you have a question, contact the coordinators (Karl and Dorothy Legler, karlndot@charter.net, (608) 643-4926). (NABA charges a $3 fee to participate in a count, to help defray the cost of publication.) (For a list of additional Butterfly Counts in Wisconsin and elsewhere, visit NABA’s Web site at www.naba.org/counts/us_mx_map.html Contacts are Listed.)

**The ButterFlyer flits to you every month in summer. The next issue will be in JUNE, 2019.**

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**Officers of SWBA:**
- President: Dr. Douglas Buege
  - djbuege@gmail.com
- Vice-President: Karl Legler
  - karlndot@charter.net
- Secretary: Dorothy Legler
- Treasurer: Fred Dike

**Other SWBA contributors:**
- e-Newsletter Editor: Karl Legler
  - karlndot@charter.net
- Webmaster: Karl Legler
- Butterfly Reporting: Mike Reese at www.wisconsinbutterflies.org
- Speaker's Bureau: Dorothy Legler
- NABA Liaison: Joan Braune

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**SWBA**

The Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association (SWBA) is a non-profit Wisconsin chapter of the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) which is the largest organization of people interested in butterflies. SWBA promotes public awareness, conservation and the enjoyment of butterflies through observation with close-focusing binoculars, chapter field trips, educational meetings, photography, butterfly gardening, monitoring and travel. SWBA’s events are open to the public.

To become a member of SWBA simply join NABA. Membership benefits include 2 color quarterly magazines “American Butterflies” and “Butterfly Gardening”. Please use the membership form on the SWBA Web site at http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabawba/

Our e-Newsletter, the Badger ButterFlyer, will be published monthly in spring to fall.

Send any news notes to the editor, Karl Legler, at karlndot@charter.net

To stop receiving this e-Newsletter simply send an email to the above editor’s address.