

# Badger ButterFlyer

The e-newsletter of the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association

A chapter of NABA (North American Butterfly Association)

JULY, 2022

WEB SITE: <http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabawba>

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

## 1 NEXT FIELD TRIPS

### ANNUAL MADISON NABA BUTTERFLY COUNT

Saturday, July 9, 2022

9:00 a.m. – Noon

This is our **32nd annual** North American Butterfly Association Madison butterfly count! Each year, butterfly enthusiasts all over North America participate in more than 330 censuses of butterfly species. Each count is similar to a Christmas Bird Count. These censuses help to monitor the health of our butterfly populations and the results are published in an annual report for North America. If you can identify butterflies,

or can help spot butterflies, or just want to see and learn about butterflies, join us on this 3-hour count/field trip. Bring binoculars, the closer they focus the better. (We have a few extra binoculars.) Dress for protection from the heat and sun, a hat is recommended. Leaders are **Karl Legler and Fred Dike.**



Coral Hairstreak

Meet at 9 a.m. at the parking lot for the Grady Tract in the UW Arboretum.

**DIRECTIONS:** Heading west on the Beltline (Hwy 12), take the Seminole Hwy exit and then turn left (south) on Seminole Hwy driving across the bridge over the Beltline, turning immediately into the parking lot for the Grady Tract . If you have a question about the butterfly count, contact Karl Legler at (608) 228-0743. Or

[karlndot@charter.net](mailto:karlndot@charter.net)

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- ##### 4. Results of Butterflies of Columbia County.



Edward's Hairstreak



Silver-spotted Skipper

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# NORTHERN KETTLE MORAINЕ STATE FOREST

(Fond du Lac County)

Thursday, July 14, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Northern unit of Kettle Moraine, located in Fond du Lac County, is the first and largest unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. Twenty-two miles long, it has world-famous glacial landforms and 30,000 acres of rolling, wooded hills and prairies.

We will spend the day observing a variety of butterflies such as Northern Pearly-Eye, Appalachian Brown, Gorgone Checkerspot, etc. averaging 30 to 40 species. We will be led by butterfly expert **Mike Reese**.

Bring binoculars for butterfly viewing (the closer they can focus the better). We have a few extra binoculars. Wear long pants and a hat for protection from the sun. Wear sturdy walking shoes and bring water. You are free to leave whenever you wish. Email Mike Reese only if you have a question about the trip, at [mikereese@wisconsinbutterflies.org](mailto:mikereese@wisconsinbutterflies.org)



Northern Pearly-eye

A State Park vehicle admission sticker is required. If you do not have a Year Park Sticker you can buy a Day Sticker \$8 (Senior \$3) at the Center where we meet.

Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Ice Age Visitor Center at N2875 Hwy 67, 0.8 miles southwest of the village of Dundee in Fond du Lac County.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Madison, take Hwy 151 to Waupun. Take Hwy 49 to the right (east). After about 10 miles, turn left (north) onto YY. After 1 1/2 mile turn right on Y (east) and go 4 1/2 miles. Turn left (north) on Hwy 175 and go 1 1/2 mile then turn right (east) on F. When F reaches Hwy 45 turn right (south) and drive 1/2 mile then turn left on F again. Continue on F until you enter the small village of Dundee and stop at Hwy 67. Turn right (south) and continue on Hwy 67 for a total of 0.8 miles. Turn left at the entrance to the Ice Age Center. Allow about 1 3/4 hour for travel.

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# BUTTERFLIES OF WALKING IRON COUNTY PARK

(Dane County)

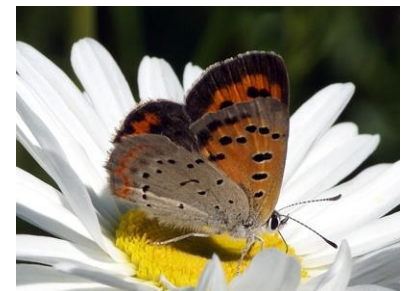
Saturday, July 23, 2022

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Butterfly enthusiasts Karl and Dorothy Legler and Pam Skaar will lead this two-hour morning walk at Walking Iron County Park. Walking Iron has 288 acres and is owned by Dane County. The prairies and oak savannas are managed for the County by The Prairie Enthusiasts. We will observe a variety of butterflies as they take nectar from wildflowers. and learn about their identification, behavior, and lifestyle. We will walk about 1-2 miles.

Bring binoculars--the closer they focus, the better. (We have a few extra binoculars.) Wear long pants and a hat for protection from the sun. Wear sturdy walking shoes and bring water.

**DIRECTIONS:** Meet at west entrance to Walking Iron at 9:30 a.m. (about 20 miles west of Middleton). From Madison drive west on Hwy 14. About one mile past Mazomanie turn right (north) on Mahocker Rd. Go 3/4 of a mile and turn left (west) on Hudson Road for 1/4 mile. Turn right (north) onto Beckman



American Copper

Road. Go 3/4 mile and look for the parking lot on the right. Call Karl, only if you have a question about the trip, at (608) 228-0743.

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## BUTTERFLIES OF THE LOWER WISCONSIN RIVERWAY (AVOCA UNIT AND BLUE RIVER UNIT)

Saturday, August 6, 2022

10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

In good years this can be the best butterfly trip of the year! This trip will highlight several areas in the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway, including Avoca Prairie and Savanna State Natural Area in Iowa County, and Blue River unit in Grant County. **Leader is butterfly expert, Mike Reese.** We expect to see late butterflies and several unusual southern immigrants. A hat and long pants are recommended. Bring water, a lunch, and binoculars (the closer they focus the better). A few extra binoculars are available. (Call Karl Legler at (608) 228-0743 only if you have a question about the trip, or if the weather is questionable.)

Meet at 10:30 a.m. Allow 50-minute travel time from Middleton.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take Hwy 14 west to Lone Rock, south on Hwy 130 then turn right on Hwy 133. Go west about 5.0 miles, turn right on Hay Road, and drive north to the first parking area.

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## 2 INTERESTING BUTTERFLY REPORTS IN JUNE, 2022 ON [wisconsinbutterflies.org](http://wisconsinbutterflies.org)

The **Hickory Hairstreak** is usually an uncommon species. But at some locations, in some years, it can have an unusually high population. On June 27, 75 were reported in Sauk County.

The **Hackberry Emperor** is fairly common but had large populations seen this year. On June 18, 300 Hackberry Emperor's were reported from Grant Co. The next day, 114 were reported from Sauk Co.

The **American Snout** is a rare immigrant from the South. But on June 16, 40 were reported from Ozaukee Co. On June 17, 5 were reported along the Mississippi River in Grant Co. and, on the 21<sup>st</sup>, 6 were reported from Milwaukee Co. The Hackberry Emperor and the American Snout both utilize Hackberry trees which are found in river bottoms. Most sightings are 1 or 2 but the American Snout is this year's 2<sup>nd</sup> top invading immigrant and continues to be reported. (One turned up on SWBA's field trip [Butterflies of Columbia County.](#))



**Hickory Hairstreak**  
Photo by Ginny Nelson



**Hackberry Emperor**



**American Snout**      Not to scale.  
The Snout is smaller than the Hackberry Emperor.

The **Marine Blue** is another immigrant from the southwest but is so very rare it had only a few records in Wisconsin. (Dorothy and I have found one Marine Blue in Wisconsin in 35 years of butterflying!) It is too rare to include on SWBA's Field Checklist. But this year it has arrived in Wisconsin in unprecedented numbers: there were 7 reports in June beginning on June 16. Mike Reese amazingly has found 2 of the Marine Blue's!

The **Variegated Fritillary** is a rather uncommon immigrant but has had 7 reports in June starting on the 17<sup>th</sup> in Grant Co.

The **Gorgone Checkerspot** is an uncommon permanent resident that is listed as Special Concern. But on June 3, 367 were reported from Jackson County. They do have a 2<sup>nd</sup> brood so we may see some more of them this year.



**Marine Blue**

Photo by Dave Hanson



**Variegated Fritillary**



**Gorgone Checkerspot**

The **Common Buckeye** is a two-way migrant that has come into the state in fairly good numbers this year. (Their descendants will leave the state later in the year.)

Other immigrants to Wisconsin seen in small numbers are

**Painted Lady** 5 reports.

**Fiery Skipper** 3 reports.

**Little Yellow** 2 reports.

**Sachem** 1 report.

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### **3 RESULTS OF BUTTERFLIES AND WILDFLOWERS OF CHEROKEE MARSH FIELD TRIP on Saturday, June 25, 2022**

Canceled because of weather. The forecast was overcast and

chance of rain: 80%

chance of butterflies: 0%

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### **4 RESULTS OF BUTTERFLIES OF COLUMBIA COUNTY FIELD TRIP**

This field trip was held on Friday, July 1. Eight participants observed butterflies all morning and some continued in the afternoon as late as 4:30. We found **a total of 281 butterflies of 35 species**. Butterflies were also surveyed by Madison Audubon at their properties, such as Goose Pond, and those results will eventually be added in and submitted to the North American Butterfly Association for publication in an annual compilation.

Highlights included the rare American Snout, 2 Common Buckeyes and Dion Skipper.

Below are the results of our butterfly finds.

Cabbage White 36  
Clouded Sulphur 23  
Orange Sulphur 4  
Bronze Copper 1  
Banded Hairstreak 6  
Edward's Hairstreak 2  
**Coral Hairstreak 2**  
Eastern Tailed-Blue 5  
Summer Azure 9  
**American Snout 2**  
Great Spangled Fritillary 43  
**Dion Skipper 1**  
**Mulberry Wing 2**

Dun Skipper 3  
Pearl Crescent 5  
**Baltimore Checkerspot 1**  
Question Mark 1  
Eastern Comma 2  
**Mourning Cloak 5**  
American Lady 3  
Red Admiral 2  
**Common Buckeye 2**  
Red-spotted Purple 4  
Viceroy 5  
Northern Pearly Eye 3  
Hobomok Skipper 1

**Eyed Brown 3**  
Little Wood Satyr 2  
Common Wood Nymph 4  
Monarch 34  
Silver-spotted Skipper 16  
Least Skipper 34  
European Skipper 3  
Northern Broken-dash 2  
Delaware Skipper 10

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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](mailto:karlndot@charter.net)

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