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Rough Green Snake | Glen Smith

Phenology is the study of the timing of plant and animal life cycle stages. It is nature's calendar; when plants leaf out, insects emerge, and animals are born. Oxley naturalists have been recording these events since October of 1990 in our 'Red Books'. We are able to go back over the years and look at particular dates to see significant sightings. Let's look at some previous things that peaked our interest in May.

21 May, 1991 Definitely 3 Red-shoulder Hawk chicks in nest. All are molting to dark heads. Gar have been spawning in Coal Creek for about a week, also, carp spawning in BJ's Pond.

9 May, 1993 Big Flood!

8 May, 1994 Dickcissels in Meadowlark Prairie

2 May, 1996 White-crowned Sparrows moving through

21 May, 1997 new fawn seen on Red Fox Trail, w/doe 4:15 pm

1 May, 1999 Cape May Warbler & Blackpoll Warbler reported at RBV (she had seen Cape May W. before, at Cape May, NJ)

4 May, 1999 Bird Creek overflowed into WSA again, just a few inches over the trail, at the yucca, but scouring Yellow Warbler Trail.

6 May, 2000 Mama armadillo with 3 young (about ½ her size) between boardwalk and bluff trail at Redbud.

22 May, 2001 Saw a mink at Blackbird Marsh 5:30 p.m. CDT. Saw pied-billed Grebe and 15 chicks

3 May, 2002 3 young woodchucks (about 6 weeks old) on hillside by library off and on all day, all 4 goslings and parents still at pond

30 May, 2002 Pair of Mississippi Kites flying over prairie, saw several long strands (4-5') of toad eggs in a puddle in old road. Saw lots of periodical cicadas throughout ONC. A newly born fawn was curled up by the back ramp to Red Fox Trail.

15 May, 2003 Large kettle of Mississippi Kites overhead Meadowlark Prairie -40-50 birds.

18 May, 2004 Barred Owl has been frequenting area around back deck, crawfish parts on railing, owl very visible, Marsh rabbit feeding along front ramp [on April 26 we observed male and female rabbits together, female gathering grasses for nest].

12 May, 2006 Saw Great Crested Flycatcher. Lots of Great Spangled Fritillaries on flowline and at marsh on thistle. Jim Thayer said their population has really increased here.

3 May, 2008 Crested Orchids in bloom at RBV

20 May, 2008 Discussed with Jim Thayer low # of butterflies this spring, Ice storm and flooding damage to overwintering stages?

27 May, 2010 Box turtle laying eggs nest to Bobs Trail near Green Dragon Trail

May, 2011 Great Spangled Fritillaries everywhere! Periodical cicadas are back!

10 May, 2015 Mama woodchuck observed grooming young at front entrance to interpretive building

28 May, 2015 17 year cicadas have emerged.

All the beautiful Spring colors!



Prothonotary Warbler, Mayapple Blossom, Little Blue Heron, Wild Blue Phlox, Green Heron, Golden Ragwort

Mary K. Oxley Nature Center - May Programs

1 May "Saturday Morning Birding" Ages: All

Saturday, 8:00-9:45 a.m. Free, registration not required.

Join us for birding at Oxley. All skill levels are welcome. Bring binoculars if you have them.

8 May "Junior Naturalists, International Migratory Bird Day" Ages: 8-12 years

Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Free for Members, Non-members \$5 per session. Please bring exact change (cash).

Registration is required by Thursday, May 6 at 4:30 p.m. Call 918-596-9054 to pre-register.

Let's celebrate International Migratory Bird Day! This month, we will explore Thrush Trail with all our senses to learn more about bird calls, behavior, and movement. Dress for the outdoors and pack a snack. Meet at Fawn Grove.

15 May "Butterfly Walk" Ages: All

Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Free, registration not required.

Join us for our butterfly walk. We will look at milkweed, search for caterpillars, and follow butterflies! Bring binoculars if you have them. All skill levels are welcome.

22 May "Wildflower Walk" Ages: All

Saturday, 10:30-noon Free, registration not required

What wonders will we find on the trail today? Plant life is growing fast now. Let's learn to identify a few edible and medicinal plants. We'll also look for wildflowers and their pollinators.

26 May "Full Flower Moon" Ages: All

Wednesday 7:00-8:30 p.m. \$3 members, \$5 non-members. Please bring exact change (cash).

Registration required by Monday, May 24 at 4:30 p.m.

Call 918-596-9054 to pre-register.

This moon is named for the abundant flowers that bloom this time of year. Join us to celebrate this beautiful time of year





Turtle Trio | Glen Smith

OXLEY NATURE CENTER

- The Interpretive Building will be open Monday through Thursday, and Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, noon - 4:30 p.m. We are closed on Fridays.
- Gate and parking lot is open daily, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. except most City holidays.
- Hiking trails are accessible during Mohawk Park hours, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

REDBUD VALLEY NATURE PRESERVE

- Redbud Valley Nature Preserve is open Saturday and Sunday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- The visitor center is open from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



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