



# Audubon Community Nature Center

*The connection begins with you.*

July – August, 2023  
Volume 67, Issue 4

The bi-monthly newsletter of ACNC,  
featuring upcoming programs and events.





## Mission

Audubon Community Nature Center builds and nurtures connections between people and nature by providing positive outdoor experiences, opportunities to learn about and understand the natural world, and knowledge to act in environmentally responsible ways.



## Nature Center Newsletter

The free, bi-monthly publication of Audubon Community Nature Center, Inc.

Kim Turner, *Newsletter Editor*  
Cover: *Bull Frog*.  
Photo by Jeff Tome.

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Jamestown, NY 14701  
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info@auduboncnc.org  
auduboncnc.org

Hosting a chapter of National Audubon Society serving Chautauqua and Warren Counties

## Nature Center Hours

10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Saturday  
1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Sunday  
Trails are open from dawn to dusk.

## Building Admission

\$6 Adults • \$2 Children • \$15 Max per family  
Free admission for Nature Center Members.  
Free admission for SNAP/EBT cardholders.  
Free admission for non-members on Sundays.



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by scanning this code.



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## Executive Director's Desk

Leigh Rovegno

Dear Members and Friends of the Nature Center,

The arrival of July and August means that the Nature Center building is bustling with day campers! Each summer, children attend ACNC's Day Camps where they make new friends and share their many nature-based discoveries.

Summer Day Camps are just one of the many nature-based programs that ACNC educators provide throughout the year. Many campers return year after year, building a life-long connection to the natural world around them.

Your Audubon Community Nature Center membership at the family level or higher includes a discount on summer camps while providing necessary financial support to keep the Nature Center open and accessible to all. 100% of your membership dollars go directly to supporting ACNC's staff, buildings, grounds, and programs.

Since its founding in 1957, ACNC has grown to include more than 850 household members!

We at ACNC are grateful for all of our members — both new and long-lasting. Your memberships, donations, gift shop/birdseed purchases, and program participation keep the Nature Center going. They allow us to continue creating real and healthy connections to nature for children and adults alike.

Part of your ACNC membership also includes the opportunity to vote in ACNC's upcoming board election as well as voting to approve the newly revised by-laws. In order to ensure proper oversight, ACNC's by-laws are reviewed and revised every five years.

**We need your help!** ACNC requires a minimum of 100 votes to reach its quorum. Ballots and revised by-laws will be sent out in early-August to all members. Please take a moment to complete your ballot and return it to ACNC to help us meet our quorum!

Thank you for choosing to be a member of Audubon Community Nature Center. We are so grateful to have you as a part of our community!

Sincerely,

*Leigh J. Rovegno*

Leigh Rovegno, Executive Director



# This Time in ACNC History

ACNC has been around since 1957, and much has happened over the last 60-plus years. Check out what was happening at this time in decades gone by.

## 1963

“...the news went out a month ago that our Society has moved to buy the Riverside property... This means that the dream... of making that swampland... at Riverside a sanctuary... is no longer a dream but a reality.”

## 1973

“Among the birds banded (at ACNC) on May 19, 1972 was a male Robin... On January 21, 1973, this Robin was found dead in Houston, Texas.”

## 1983

“The Spotlight this month is on the newsletter’s new editor. Dolores Thompson is known to many of you as the historian for the City of Jamestown and her 7-year association with the Fenton Historical Center as its director.”

## 1993

“Joyce and Milt Shelgren are drawing up a wildflower list for Burgeson Sanctuary.”

## 2003

“Last month, the Board of Directors voted to officially authorize a ‘heritage society’ that would encourage people who love Audubon to include (ACNC) in their estate plans, and to let us know when they have so that we can honor them in their lifetime.”

## 2013

“The Kitchen Garden has been funded by a grant from the Cornell University Department of Horticulture... to develop a small demonstration garden utilizing innovative methods of ecological design.”

Audubon Community Nature Center’s Board of Directors, Chairs, and Committee Members are volunteers.

Thank you to those who contribute time, thought, and energy to help ACNC run smoothly and effectively.

**Right:** This is a view of the nature center from 1983 from the orange trail, before the addition to the Nature Center was added and long before the fence for the preschool play area was completed.

## Board Officers

<i>Board Chairperson</i> .....	Tina Downey
<i>First Vice Chair</i> .....	Dave Burlee
<i>Second Vice Chair</i> .....	Dr. Eugenie Poignard
<i>Secretary</i> .....	Willow Fodor
<i>Treasurer</i> .....	Greg Lyle

## Board of Directors

Louise Boutwell, Laurie Korb, Netta Lindell, Andrew Harrington, Tim Piotrowski, Dr. Erin Pender, Dr. Eugenie Poignard

## Nature Center Staff

<i>Executive Director</i> .....	Leigh Rovegno
<i>Public Engagement Specialist</i> .....	Jeff Tome
<i>Administrative Assistant, Volunteer Coordinator</i> ...	Emily Nelson
<i>Education Coordinator</i> .....	Sarah Hatfield
<i>Senior Nature Educator,</i>	
<i>Interpretive Projects Manager</i> .....	Katie Finch
<i>Nature Educator</i> .....	Chelsea Jandreau
<i>Nature Educator</i> .....	Emma Roth
<i>Summer Nature Education Interns</i> .....	Audrey Ducat
.....	Tim Galati
.....	Elizabeth Quadt
.....	Abigail Roof
<i>Designer, Animal Care Specialist</i> .....	Kim Turner
<i>Gift Shop Manager</i> .....	Joanne Miller
<i>Receptionist</i> .....	Claire Certo
<i>Building and Grounds Manager</i> .....	Terry LeBaron
<i>Summer Invasive Species Interns</i> .....	Amelia Brown
.....	Ellen Greenfield

## Volunteer Chairs

<i>Fundraising and Development</i> .....	Dr. Eugenie Poignard
<i>IDEA Committee</i> .....	Willow Fodor
<i>Land Use Management</i> .....	Dave Burlee
<i>Mailing Committee</i> .....	Leah Bullock
<i>Membership</i> .....	Sandy Fletcher
.....	Linda Trostle
<i>Publicity</i> .....	Pat Bringer





## T-shirt Fundraiser Pre-sale

**\$25 Adult Unisex T-shirt** (S, M, L, XL, XXL\*)

**\$25 Adult Women's cut T-shirt** (S, M, L, XL)

**\$30 Adult Unisex long-sleeved shirt** (S, M, L, XL)

**\$20 Youth T-shirt** (S, M, L)

**\$40 Hooded Sweatshirt** (Adult and youth sizes)

\*Additional \$5 for size XXL T-shirt and sweatshirt

Pre-order by Monday, September 4, 2023

River Otters go with the flow, and sometimes people need a reminder to do the same sometimes. Purchase this uniquely Audubon River Otter shirt to remind yourself to go with the flow, play, and be free. The River Otter design was created by ACNC's in-house designer, Kim Turner, and is available only this year. It comes in a variety of adult sizes, in short and long sleeves, including women's cut short-sleeved, as well as youth sizes. This is a limited time offer, and all orders must be placed by September 4, 2023.

Your purchase also supports local business! Sideline Sports will print the shirts purchased through Audubon's sale. Select 'in-person pick-up', or 'ship my order' for an additional \$5.00 per item shipping fee. Shirts can be picked up on Friday, September 22 or Saturday, September 23.



## Birdseed

Conewango Blend is a specially-mixed seed that was created by a team of local birders to attract many different birds. It is rich with black oil sunflower seeds and also includes canary seed, millet, corn, safflower seed, and sunflower hearts. This mix is available in the Blue Heron Gift Shop at ACNC.



**You can also find Conewango Blend at:**

- Ashville General Store, *Ashville, NY*
- BioDome Project, *Jamestown, NY*
- Ekey Marketplace, *Warren, PA*
- Everyday's True Value, *Jamestown, NY*
- Howe's True Value, *Warren, PA*
- Lakewood Apothecary, *Lakewood, NY*
- Lighthouse Point Grocery, *Mayville, NY*
- Oneida Lumber, Ace Hardware, *Warren, PA*
- Wegmans, *Jamestown, NY*



## Children's Explorer Tools

Children love to explore and Audubon's Blue Heron Gift Shop has the tools to help them deepen that exploration. There is always a wide variety of field guides and children's books to help them look at the world in new ways, but there is also a huge variety of equipment that is made for small hands and growing brains.

The gift shop has magnifying glasses that are designed for children's hands, bug boxes with magnifiers in the lid to closely examine things they find, nets to catch small things, and even foldable insect carriers to hold larger finds.



# Programs and Events

## July

### Summer Treasure Hunt (All)

Saturday, July 1 – Thursday, August 31

\$5 for treasure map

*No reservations required.*

### First Sunday Story Time

(Children 2 – 8 with an adult)

Sunday, July 2, 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Free for children and adults

*Reservations requested by July 1.*

*Limited enrollment. Walk-ins accepted if room.*



### Little Explorers (Ages 3 – 8 with an adult)

*Frogs, Toads, and Salamanders*

Saturday, July 8, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$12 Adults

\$9 Members and Children 3 – 8

*Paid reservations required by July 6.*

*Limited enrollment.*

### Natural Investigators

(Children 8 – 12 with an adult)

*Knot Tying and Shelter Building*

Saturday, July 22, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$12 Adults

\$9 Members and Children 8 – 12

*Paid reservations required by July 20.*

*Limited enrollment.*

### Wild 5k (Adult+)

Saturday, July 29, 2023

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Race

10:15 a.m. Awards

\$30 Adults

\$25 Nature Center or Striders members

*Pre-registrations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.*

*Deadline to get a T-shirt with registration: July 18.*

See page 6 for more info.

## August

### Fri-YAY! (Adult 21+)

The Empty Bottle at Southern Tier Distilling  
2051A Stoneman Circle Lakewood, NY 14750

Friday, August 4, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

ACNC staff and volunteers will be 'guest-bartenders' serving drinks to raise money in support of ACNC.

*No reservations required.*

### First Sunday Story Time

(Children 2 – 8 with an adult)

Sunday, August 6, 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Free for children and adults

*Reservations requested by August 5.*

*Limited enrollment. Walk-ins accepted if room.*

### Little Explorers (Children 3 – 8 with an adult)

*Insects and Other Invertebrates*

Saturday, August 12, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$12 Adults

\$9 Members and children 3 – 8

*Paid reservations required by August 10.*

*Limited enrollment.*

### Butterflies and Brews (Adult 21+)

Friday, August 25, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

\$30 prepaid (through Monday, August 21)

\$35 at the door

*Enrollment limited to 120.*

### Monarch Butterfly Festival (All)

Saturday, August 26

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

\$12 Adults

\$9 Members and children 3 – 15

free 2 and under

*Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.*



## Coming Up

### River Otter T-shirt Fundraiser

Pre-order by Monday, September 4

See page 3 for more info.



### Intended Audience Key

**Adult** = designed for adults

**Adult+** = designed for adults, mature, and interested children 9 and up when accompanied by an adult.

**All** = Something for everyone, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Children/Ages** = designed for kids — drop them off and pick them up later.

### Program Registration

- Online at [auduboncnc.org](http://auduboncnc.org)

- Phone: **(716) 569-2345**

- By mail with credit card information or a check payable to ACNC

**Audubon Community Nature Center**  
**1600 Riverside Road,**  
**Jamestown, NY, 14701**

### Refund Policy

- If Audubon Community Nature Center cancels the program, participants receive full refunds.
- If a participant cancels **before** the deadline, a refund, with \$5 withheld as a processing fee, will be made.
- If a participant cancels **after** the deadline, no refund will be made, but ACNC still needs to know of your cancellation.
- No refunds after 30 days from purchase (excludes Day Camp).

*Registrations required for most programs. Programs may be cancelled if there are not enough registered. Register early to ensure the class runs. Some programs have limited enrollment.*

### Please Note:

For the most accurate information about ACNC programs and events, please visit [auduboncnc.org](http://auduboncnc.org) or call **(716) 569-2345**.



# Dragonflies and Damselflies

Katie Finch, *Senior Nature Educator*

A visit to the edge of a lake or pond on a summer day will almost guarantee you a sighting of dragonflies or damselflies. Mostly active during the day, the variety of species, fascinating lifecycle, and recognizable behaviors make them good insects to observe.

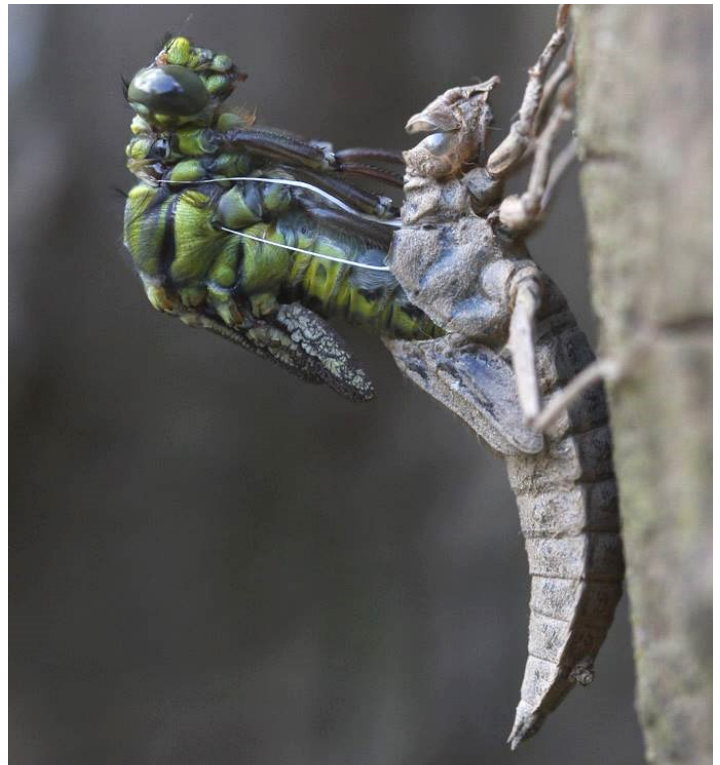
Adult dragonflies seem to perform aerial acrobatics as they zoom after prey. As powerful flying predators, they grab insects in the air with their mouthparts. Some species hunt from perches, turning their heads to watch insects with their large eyes.

When perched, it can be easy to distinguish between dragonflies and damselflies. Generally, dragonflies are larger, stouter, and rest with their wings spread out. Damselflies are generally smaller and rest with their wings fully or partially folded together.

You can also watch adult males defending their territories over water. They may patrol back and forth over the water or dart quickly up to chase off other males. After mating, females lay eggs by dipping the tips of their abdomens in and out of the water.

The eggs of both dragonflies and damselflies are laid in the water. After hatching, the nymphs may live underwater for a few months to a few years. As predators, they hunt most anything that swims by including tadpoles and other insects.

To move from nymph to adult stage, they undergo an amazing metamorphosis. We can't see much of the change because it happens while still in the nymph exoskeleton. But the last step can be witnessed just at the edge of the water. When ready, the nymph crawls out of the water, the skin splits open and the adult pulls its body out.



**Left Top:** Dragonfly nymphs live underwater. They can be observed using a net and container of water. Photo by David Huth.

**Left Bottom:** Meadowhawk adults feed far from water over fields and meadows in mid to late summer. Photo by Jeff Tome.

**Right:** A dragonfly adult emerging from its nymph exoskeleton. When fully emerged, the adult flies away leaving its empty exoskeleton, called an exuvia, behind.



## Wild 5k

**Saturday, July 29**

**8:00 – 8:45 a.m. Registration**

**9:00 a.m. Race**

**10:15 a.m. Awards**

**\$30 Adults**

**\$25 Nature Center or Striders members**

*Pre-registrations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.  
Deadline to get a T-shirt with registration: July 18.*

This 5k run/walk winds through Audubon's trails. The race course will take you through shady hemlock forests, over boardwalks, past fields, and back to the Nature Center. Audubon's trail system is in a glacial valley, which makes the trail exceptionally flat.

The course starts out on a 12-foot-wide maintenance road before narrowing to 6-foot-wide trails further on. The course is well-marked with white arrows.

Money raised in the Wild 5k supports the trail system that the race takes place on, as well as Audubon's vision of giving every child in the region a healthy connection to nature.



## Butterflies and Brews (Adult 21+)

**Friday, August 25, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

**\$30 prepaid** (through Monday, August 21, 2023)

**\$35 at the door**

*Enrollment limited to 120.*

Join Audubon for an 'adults only' event that celebrates the wonders of the Monarch Butterfly.

## Monarch Butterfly Festival

**Saturday, August 26, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**\$12 Adults**

**\$9 Members and Children 3 – 15**

**Free 2 and under**

*Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.*

This educational festival celebrates the life and beauty of one of the best-known native butterflies: Monarchs. ACNC raises and releases more than 100 Monarchs each year to help boost their population, and hosts this festival to educate the public about Monarchs.



# Welcome, New and Renewed Nature Center Members

*Recorded between October 28, 2022 and May 5, 2023*

## Family \$60

Silja Grace Allen  
 Jessica and Zachary Bascom  
 Joshua Benson  
 Shannon Bessette  
 Matthew and Brittany Best  
 Joe and Lindsay Bevevino  
 Maggie and Gage Bird  
 Hannah Brant  
 Cassie and Carey Brown  
 Kristen and Mike Brunacini  
 Emily and Jim Cama  
 Sarah Chimera  
 Rob and Kali Clark  
 Danielle Cook  
 Tina M. Cooper  
 The Dake Family  
 Chelsie and Colby Dell  
 Grace Dennis and Dylan Head  
 Ross Donisi  
 Katherine S. Dysinger  
 Mary Elliott and Family  
 Kaity Felton  
 Ashlee France  
 Natalie Gaskin  
 Dan and Sam Grambow  
 Jenna Green  
 Dori Highhouse  
 Nicole L. Hinderleider  
 Kristin Jackson  
 The Jacobs Family  
 Sarah Jankowski and Family  
 Jackie and Mick Johnson  
 Shelly Johnston  
 Nicole Kane  
 Tammy Kibbey  
 Jane Kidder  
 Kaylee La Spisa and Edward  
 Garner  
 Ryan and Dawn Landers  
 Antoinetta Lindell  
 Amber and Matt Littlefield  
 Katie Lucas  
 The Lundahl Gese Family  
 Hallie Manelick  
 Corie Maxson and Jeff Goeckel  
 Donelle Melville  
 Connie Middleton  
 David and Julia Niles

## Family \$60 (continued)

Nolan and Natallie O'Boyle  
 The Pannell Family  
 David and Christie Porsley  
 Brittany Reed  
 Amanda Rice  
 Cassandra and Itall Riquelme  
 Chelsie and Walter Sanders  
 Grace Sands  
 Nathaniel Schmidt  
 Lina Scoma  
 Cameron and Tom Skelton  
 Lyndsey Slye  
 Heather and Jared Snell  
 Michelle Sotelo  
 Derek Svenson  
 Rebecca VanKeuren  
 Barry and Tammy VanOrd  
 John and Sally Villella  
 Lindsey Vitello  
 Sarah Vosz  
 Todd and Elizabeth Wentworth  
 Paul Westerberg  
 Jocelyn Whalen  
 Herb and Alice Woodard  
 Hannah Yezzi  
 Olivia Zapel

## Family Plus \$100

Frank Besse  
 Dawn Bines  
 Michael and Lacey Burns  
 Andrew and Devon Gortz  
 Erik and Traci Gullett  
 Brady and Reid Housler  
 Garrett and Jocelyn Jackson  
 Dawn and Jeff Keller  
 Adam and Cass Miller  
 Lorraine Nardone  
 Jim and Amy Schettine  
 Ashley Schosek and Jay Garcia  
 Scott and Sarah Shelters  
 Philip J. Stafford  
 Jessica Taylor  
 Jessica Thompson  
 Latisha and Michael White  
 Rebecca Whited

## Individual \$50

Kathy Archer  
 Linda M. White  
 Rhonda Whitford

## Organizational \$160

New Directions Youth  
 and Family Services

## Senior (65+) Individual \$35

Mary Carpenter  
 Sandy Greene  
 Jan Keller  
 Michael Ray  
 Ralph Smith

## Senior (65+) Family \$45

Linda Almasy-Hohmann  
 Leann and Terry Austin  
 David and Kathy Ayers  
 Dennis and Elizabeth Davis  
 Nadine Pollack and Dale Dunshie  
 Linda Falconer  
 Tari and Tom Geisler  
 John and Lori Johnson  
 Robert and Dakota Knox  
 Judy and Alan Kuzminski  
 John and Kathy MacRoy  
 Noelle Noyd and  
 Thomas J Polizzi, III  
 Vickie Osmer  
 Vincent and Debra Ognibene  
 Lori Simon  
 Robert and Selene Swanson  
 Joy Turnquist  
 Sandy Wachter  
 Elizabeth Welch and  
 Stephen Glinick  
 Elaine Wendelboe  
 Tammy Wrazen and Mike Estok

## Supporting \$250

Judy Cheney  
 Conewango Kayak and Canoe



## Poison Ivy

For many people, summer is a time spent outdoors. Learning how to identify Poison Ivy can keep everyone safe and having fun outside. Poison Ivy is a widespread plant, but for some people, touching the leaves or stems results in a red, itchy rash a few days after exposure. This is caused by urushiol, an oil in the plant.

Poison Ivy can look a little different depending on the location and the time of year, but there are some basic features you can use in identification.

Remembering this rhyme is a helpful starting point:

**“Leaves of three, let them be.**

**Vines with hair, beware.”**

Poison Ivy is not the only plant with clusters of three leaves, but that does narrow it down. It can grow as groundcover or as a hairy vine climbing up a tree or post. The leaves have smooth edges, start out a shiny green in the summer and turn red towards the fall. Some of the leaves have a mitten shape.

Wear long pants and closed-toed shoes to help keep the urushiol off the skin, but remember to wash your clothes when you get home. If you do come into



*Poison Ivy leaves. Photo by Jennifer Schlick.*

direct contact with Poison Ivy, make sure not to touch other parts of your body, since the oil can spread. Rinse off as soon as you can with cool water and a soap meant to remove oils, such as dish soap. Learning to identify Poison Ivy means a safer and less itchy summer, so put this one on your list of plants to know.

## Blue Heron Legacy Society

ACNC strives to ensure that every child from the local community has a real and healthy connection to nature.

You can be a part of this vision, make it stronger, and leave a lasting legacy for the future.

ACNC's vision becomes stronger through long-term commitments made by Nature Center members, donors, and friends; those who wish their legacies to be a part of a thriving, educational, nature-based organization. Commitments can include listing ACNC as a beneficiary in your will, IRA account, retirement plan, or designated fund.

What will **your** legacy be? How will you leave **your** mark on the world?

*Please contact Leigh Rovegno for more information at [lrovegno@auduboncnc.org](mailto:lrovegno@auduboncnc.org) or (716) 569-2345 x101.*



## Community Partners

Thank you for your dedicated support.

**Carnahan-Jackson Foundation**

**Chautauqua Region**

**Community Foundation**

**Holmberg Foundation**

**Hultquist Foundation**

**Jessie Smith Darrah Fund**

**The Lenna Foundation**

**The Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation**

**Whirley-DrinkWorks!**

**Bob Frucella's Tax Service**

**Bush Industries, Inc.**

**Curt and Susie Westrom**

**David Campbell**

**Weinberg Financial Group**

*Please contact Leigh Rovegno for more information at [lrovegno@auduboncnc.org](mailto:lrovegno@auduboncnc.org) or (716) 569-2345 x101.*





# Audubon Community Nature Center

Audubon Community Nature Center, Inc.  
1600 Riverside Road  
Jamestown, NY 14701

Electronic service requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Jamestown, NY  
14701  
Permit No. 687

## July/August ACNC Newsletter

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*Black Swallowtail Caterpillar. Photo by Jeff Tome.*