

Nature Notes

Week of

June 7

June Beetles are also referred to as June Bugs. June Bugs are nocturnal beetles that are attracted to light, sometimes in great numbers. They are reddish brown in color and do not have prominent markings. If you use a magnifying glass, you will see that their undersides are rather hairy. The adults feed on foliage of trees and shrubs and are very clumsy both on land and in the air.

June 14

Green frogs are the most abundant and widely distributed frog in Ohio. Their call sounds like the plucking of a bass string on a banjo at well-spaced intervals. When disturbed, the green frog utters a short, high pitched cry as it dives into the water.

June 21

The Summer Solstice occurs in the northern hemisphere on June 21, 2010. At Summer Solstice, the sun is at its highest point in the sky and it will be the longest day of the year. This is also the first day of summer. Many plants and animals have bioclocks that are triggered by the length of day. For example, long day plants bloom in the spring and early summer. Short day plants bloom in the late summer and fall.

June 28

Ever been snipe hunting? This activity is normally a practical joke for gullible individuals who do not know they will be left "holding the bag." But a snipe is NOT an urban legend. The snipe is one of North America's most abundant sandpipers. These birds live in damp to wet cattail and bulrush marshes, bogs, and even soggy cattle pastures. A snipe uses its long beak to probe for food such as larvae, earthworms, spiders and other soft bodied invertebrates. The North American snipe's common name is Wilson's snipe.