

OUTDOOR ALMANAC

JUNE 2018



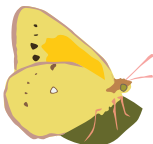
1 Birds such as **yellow warblers** are still singing at dawn for pair bonding, but note how little song there is during the day as they attend to their young.

3 If you live near a vernal pool, multitudes of tiny wood froglets may appear in your garden or wooded yard on their way to a wooded upland.



5 On a midday walk you could happen upon a **garter snake**—the state reptile of Massachusetts—basking in a sunny forest clearing or grassy meadow.

10 Migratory green darner dragonflies have returned. These large, common dragonflies can be seen patrolling near ponds. Nonmigratory darners will emerge soon.



14 Garden butterflies are about. Watch for favorites including swallowtails, painted ladies, fritillaries, and **sulphurs**.

18 **Young birds** begin to leave their nests about this time. They often still have some downy fuzz left and are still attended by their parents but they will soon be on their own.



21 Summer solstice. It's the first official day of summer and the longest day of the year.

23 At nightfall, watch for flickering **fireflies** in fields and grassy areas. Each species has its own pattern of flashes.

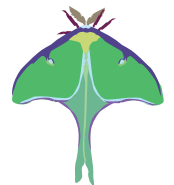


24 Gray tree frogs, often heard yet seldom seen, begin singing their birdlike trill; listen also for the nighttime bullfrog chorus at nearby ponds.

28 **Full moon.** The Full Strawberry Moon is the time to gather both tiny, native woodland strawberries and garden strawberries.



29 **Luna moths** are active after full dark. Look for them on the sides of buildings that have outdoor lights. They use their long tails to confuse the sonar signals of bats and avoid capture.



30 Check your garden for **robber flies**, which hover in midair around your flowers looking for prey and zip off when approached.

