

OUTDOOR ALMANAC

JUNE 2019

1 It's National Trails Day. Get outside and explore a new trail or a favorite old one.



2 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.

8 Migratory Green Darner Dragonflies have returned. These large, common dragonflies can be seen patrolling near ponds. Nonmigratory darners will emerge soon.

10 Jupiter will be “close” to the Earth, seen at its brightest all night long. Borrow a telescope or a powerful pair of binoculars to view the planet along with its moons.

13 Turkey poults have hatched and can be found foraging in fields with their hen. By the time they are three weeks old, poults can fly into nearby trees or shrubs at a command from the hen.



17 **Full moon.** The Algonquin Indians called this the Time to Hill Corn Moon. —a reminder to hill the corn planted last month to help it stand straight and grow tall.

18 Garden butterflies are about. Watch for favorites including swallowtails, Painted Ladies, fritillaries, and **sulphurs**.



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

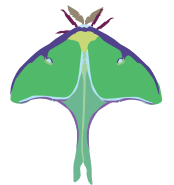
23 At nightfall, watch for flickering **fireflies** in fields and grassy areas. Each species has its own pattern of flashes.



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

27 If you are in an area with both Eastern Red Cedars and apple trees on a rainy day, you will notice balls of orange, gelatinous projections on the red cedars. These projections are dispersing spores of cedar apple rust, which is a fungus that requires two hosts: apples or crabapples and red cedars.

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



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

