



Butterfly & Dragonfly Monitoring Training May 4 and 5

At Crab Orchard NWR & Barkhausen Cache River Wetland Center

Led by Doug Taron, Chief Curator Emeritus
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum

Do you enjoy taking nature walks and watching butterflies or dragonflies? This training is for you!

The Illinois Butterfly Monitoring Network (IBMN) and Illinois Odonate Survey (IOS) are recruiting Citizen Science volunteers to monitor these populations in Southern Illinois. Monitors are needed for several public land sites and may be given a trail already mapped by IBMN or IOS, with locations that are close to their home community. Volunteers pledge to turn in at least 8 surveys of their assigned trail between mid May and late August. These trails can usually be walked at a slow pace in about one to two hours. It is strongly encouraged that potential monitors register and view the "2024 Southern Illinois Workshops" online at IBMN (Website: <https://ibmn.org/>) or YouTube IBMN site before they attend these field events.

Also, participants are asked to **pre-register** for the field training by calling Crab Orchard NWR Visitor Ctr. (618-997-3344), Barkhausen Cache River Wetland Ctr (618-657-2064), or Giant City State Pk (618-457-4836).

There is no charge for the training or the workshops. Bring binoculars if you have them, sack lunches, a water bottle and appropriate clothing for outdoor walking. Participants are welcome to attend both days. New monitors must attend at least the first day's session. Both days will offer valuable information for returning experienced monitors. The workshop plan is:

Saturday May 4 Focus on Butterflies

10:00AM to Noon: Field Training

Meet at the CONWR Visitor's Center and we will walk to the Headquarters Prairie. This site will be used to demonstrate a monitoring walk using the Pollard protocol.

Noon to 1PM: Lunch at the Visitors Center patio (participants are asked to bring a sack lunch) or Harmony Trail picnic area.

1PM to 3:30PM: Field Training

We will caravan from the CONWR Visitor's Center to Cache River Wetland Ctr, meeting in the Visitor's Center and hiking nearby.

Sunday May 5 Focus on Dragonflies

10:00AM to Noon: Field Training

Meet at the Giant City Visitors center inside for a brief lecture.

Noon to 1PM Lunch in the Visitor's Center (again, please bring a sack lunch)

1PM to 3:30PM: Caravan to Allen Pond (Giant City location)