

ISAWIT ~~ON THE TRAIL~~ IN MY BACKYARD

BY: **Chris Harbowy** - HIKING MICHIGAN



Nature lovers are always on the lookout for new discoveries. As you know, hikes are a great place to experience nature and see wildlife. However, your own backyard can also be an interesting source of nature, especially if you pay close attention.

I live in a subdivision in the small Village of Holly where the homes are packed tightly together. The village is surrounded by wooded countryside, so over the years I've experienced more wildlife than I did when I lived in Royal Oak. Consequently, those living a rural lifestyle will have a greater variety of wildlife experiences.

I've been very happy with the birding at my house. I recommend using shelled peanuts in your feeder. You'll attract a more varied assortment of birds. Here are some of the more interesting birds I've seen at or near my bird feeder.

The wildlife at my house is not limited to birds. The following animals have stopped by for a visit:

BACKYARD WILDLIFE:

- Red Squirrel
- Fox Squirrel
- Mole
- Groundhog
- Opossum
- Raccoon
- Skunk
- Shrew
- Rabbit
- Field Mouse
- Baby snapping turtle
- Toad
- Frog



Red bellied Woodpecker

BIRD FEEDER BIRDS:

- White Breasted Nuthatch
- Tufted Titmouse
- Downy Woodpecker
- Northern Flicker
- Cooper's Hawk
- Cowbird
- Grackle
- Red-Winged Blackbird
- Mallard Duck
- Black Duck
- Crow
- Cardinal
- Hummingbird
- Red Bellied Woodpecker
- Screech Owl



Opossum in a Live Trap



Immature Red Squirrel on my window sill



Mallard Ducks and Fox Squirrel

~~I SAW IT ON THE TRAIL~~ IN MY BACKYARD



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I hope that this article sparks some interest in the home nature experience. Please contribute your comments below and let me know what interesting things you've seen in your yard.

Here's where paying close attention pays off. The following insects have been spotted at my residence:

Luna Moth on my fence



BACKYARD INSECTS:

Luna Moth
Eastern Dobsonfly
Emerald Ash Borer
Polyphemus Moth
Katydid

Some other aspects of nature have surprised me including:

BACKYARD SURPRISES:

Morel Mushrooms
Crocus Flowers



Eastern Dobsen Fly on my electrical junction box outside



Polyphemus Moth on my driveway



*Unidentified Moth on my Garage door
Do you know this Moth?*