



Naturally Sustainable

Explore the Wonders of Nature at Snipes Farm
With Naturalist Paula Walter



- Return of the Bluebird -

Four new bluebirds are born in Nest Box 1 of Snipes Farm Blade Bluebird Trail



**Mother and
babies are doing
fine.**



**Dad is working very
hard to keep mother
and hatchlings fed.**



**But that's not all! 4 other nest boxes were
used to house 4 families of tree swallows and
tree swallows, coincidentally, are also blue!**

June 2023

It has been fun observing the nest boxes this spring.

The Bluebirds have been pretty relaxed with respect to my presence at their nest box. Upon hearing me approach, the adult, most likely the female, will fly out of the house and calmly perch nearby while I inspect their nest, whether it contains eggs, hatchlings, or fledglings.

Tree swallows, on the other hand are pretty animated - bordering on crazy. I don't even have to open their nest box to know what is going on.

- I know there is a nest inside because tree swallows always seem to let some of their nesting material show through the nest box.
- I know there are eggs in the nest because when I approach, they start fussing at me by chirping and flying above me in a seemingly erratic way.
- I know there are live hatchlings/fledglings in the nest because they will do everything in their power to keep me from opening that nest box. Have you ever had a group of birds divebomb you? It is both humorous and worrisome. Once this happens, I respect their protective instincts and stay clear of the box until activity around the box has calmed down, which means the babies have fledged.

Read the story of the Blade Bluebird Trail

<https://www.snipesfarm.org/news-articles/bluebird-comeback.html>

Next 4th Saturday Nature Walk with Paula

[August 26: Family Nature Walk – Meadow Life at Snipes Farm](#)

Paula Walter is a naturalist at Snipes Farm & Education Center.

