

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

NATIVE SPECIES

SERIES 1
#8



GIANT SILKMOTH

Antheraea polyphemus

BASIC ID

These butterflies of the night have wingspans of 4-6" and are our largest moths. Eyespots on their hind wings can startle predators which allows the moths to escape. Males have large feather-shaped antennae they use to find females.

HABITS

Adult moths do not feed and are harmless. Females will lay rows of 2-6 eggs on the leaves of small trees or shrubs. Seen in rural and urban areas of Wisconsin from late May-June.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact your local DNR Service Center or State Park Naturalist.

Photo: Gene Tiser, WI DNR
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