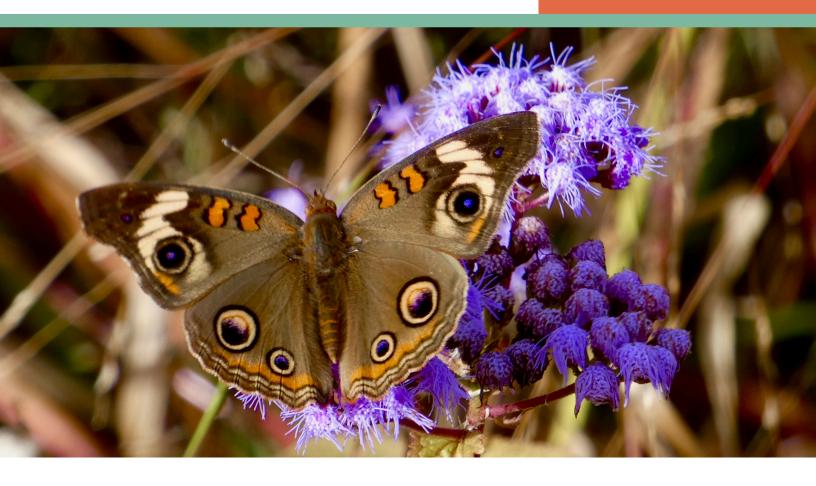
## **COMMON BUCKEYE**

(Junonia coenia)





The common buckeye butterfly is found across all parts of the United States, except the northwest. They cannot live in freezing temperatures. In the spring, they move northward, while in the fall the populations swell as they begin a southward migration. Buckeyes prefer open sunny locations like fields,

grasslands, and shorelines. Males are notoriously territorial and will patrol areas seeking out mates and intruders.

Caterpillars feed on a range of host plants including snapdragon, gerardia, false foxglove, plantains, and ruellia. Many of these host plants contain toxic chemicals that caterpillars sequester to protect themselves from predators. Adult butterflies nectar on various plants such as zinnia, hydrangea, and butterfly bush. Buckeyes will also collect fluids from mud and damp sand.

By Rachel McLaughlin



