

Mississippi Kites continue nesting in Rockford



For the fourth consecutive year, Mississippi Kites (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) have nested near Bloom School, Rockford in Winnebago County.

Several fine photographers who observed the intimate life of a family of kites share their portraits of adults and young and the food they ate throughout the 2011 nesting season.



Left, a male eats a Chimney Swift, while the female waits (apparently) in vain for some of the meal. (17 July, J. Longhenry, ph.)



Above, the pair copulates. (5 June, Vic Berardi ph.)

Left, an adult brings a cicada from its feet to its beak to eat. (21 August, John Longhenry ph.)



Right, an adult carries a stick to add to the nest. (28 August, J. Longhenry, ph.)



Above, an adult kite captures a cicada (Summer 2011, Jerry Goldner, ph.)