

June - Week 5

Sights and Sounds at Dusk

At the end of June the days feel like they will never end. The sun sets after 9pm and people and wildlife alike remain active until sunset and beyond as the day turns to night. These summer evenings are accentuated by amazing seasonal sights and sounds that many people look forward to all year long.

At dusk, flashes of natural light can be seen throughout Minnesota as firefly activity peaks. Male fireflies can be seen flashing their signals to females over meadows and along the edges of woodlands and wetlands.

Frogs and crickets produce a symphony of sounds on these warm evenings as well. Green Frogs, also known as banjo twangers, and other frogs can be heard near ponds and lakes. Crickets rub their wings against each other producing long humming or buzzing sounds. Songbirds can also be heard singing, often reaching a crescendo around dusk and fading as the daylight fades to darkness. Simply find a place to sit in your backyard or a park. Sit quietly and relax, become absorbed by a warm summer evening. Watch the sunset and take in the natural sights and sounds. Just look and listen. What messages do the sights and sounds send you. Document these messages in words and pictures.



Sunset on the St. Croix River.