

SPOTLIGHT

BUCKEYE



Buckeye (*Junonia coenia*) sunning itself near Martin Luther King Drive, Philadelphia.

Buckeyes in the southern United States are resident all year around, while those in the north are migratory, recolonizing habitat every summer. Half a century ago populations in the Delaware Valley were found to be both residential and migratory, the proportions varying from year to year depending on temperature and location. In theory, global warming and Philadelphia's heat island could increase the proportion that overwinter here. In Center City host plants for buckeye caterpillars are common; they are English plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and blackseed plantain (*Plantago rugelii*).¹ Buckeyes are rare in Center City but occasionally appear during the fall migration.