

Moth: Luna Moth



My Home: I am found in trees of the eastern part of the United States and into Canada. I only fly at night and that is how I got my name, the word 'luna' means moon.

What I eat: As a caterpillar, I will eat hickory, sycamore and walnut leaves. I do not have a mouth and do not eat as an adult.

What I look like: My wings are light green with yellow stripes that have a long wing tail. My wingspan is approximately 5 inches long and 4 inches wide. I am one of the largest moths in North America.

How I am born: I will go through four stages of development: egg, caterpillar, pupa (cocoon), and adult. The female can lay 400 to 600 eggs, four to six eggs at a time on the underside of leaves. It can take up to two weeks for my egg to hatch into a lime green caterpillar with small orange spots along the sides. It takes about six weeks from the time my egg is laid for me to turn into an adult. As an adult, I only live about one week.

Fun Facts: The adult Luna Moth does not have a mouth. Luna Moths are members of the giant silkworm family.