



STILLMAN NATURE CENTER

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33 WEST PENNY ROAD • SOUTH BARRINGTON • IL • 60010

847-428-OWLS (6957) • EMAIL STILLNC@WILDBLUE.NET • WWW.STILLMANN.C.ORG



Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*)

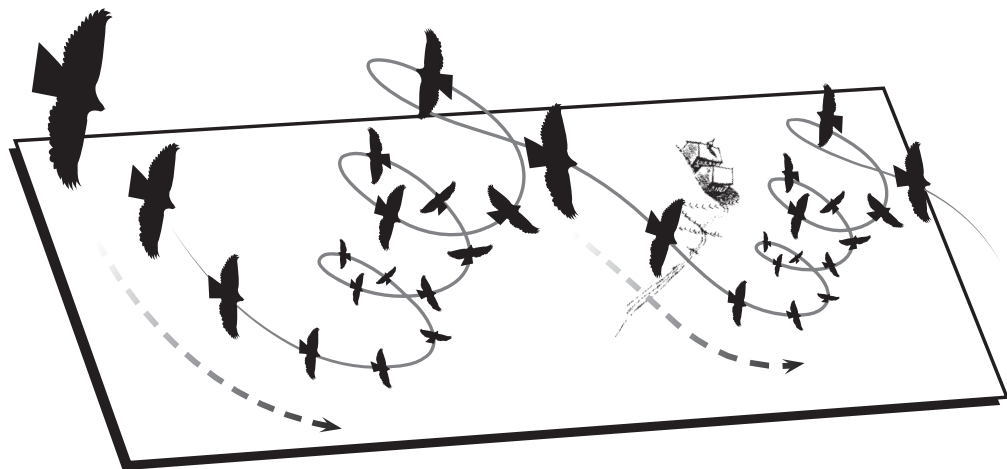
Identifying Marks: Wingspan 34 inches; length 15 inches. It is a short, stocky hawk with distinctive black-and-white tail bands. When seen from below, the wings are white trimmed with black-tipped primaries. If you see a flock of hawks migrating in the fall, you're looking at broad-winged hawks (see below).

Habitat: Summer resident across the eastern half of the country in deciduous, mixed, or occasionally coniferous forests. It winters in Central and South America in a variety of forest types.

Nests: Usually located in the first main crotch of a deciduous tree or on a platform of horizontal branches against the trunk of a conifer. Both sexes help build the stick nest although the female does most of the work.

Diet: Mice, chipmunks, shrews, insects, snakes, toads and frogs.

Voice: A thin, high whistle *teeteeeee*. Male's call higher than female's.



Hawks use thermal updrafts to gain altitude. This height advantage is converted into distance by gliding to the base of another thermal and repeating the process.

State and federal permits are required to keep wildlife for educational purposes.