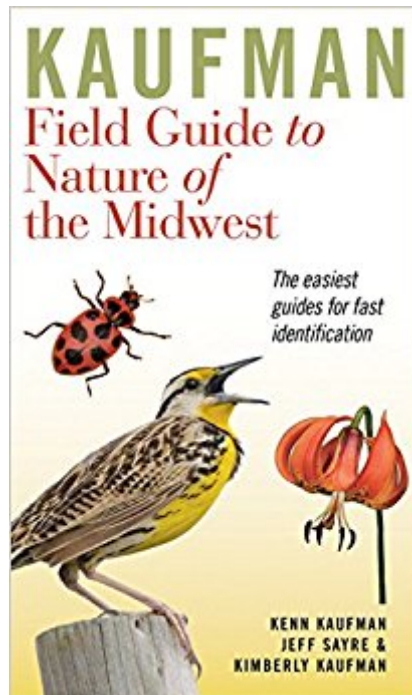




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Kaufman Field Guide To Nature Of The Midwest (Kaufman Field Guides)



Synopsis

The only field guide to bring along to identify the birds, mammals, trees, wildflowers, insects, reptiles, amphibians, fish, spiders, mushrooms, ferns, rocks, and sky of the Midwest. Even if we focus on certain things in the outdoors, most of us are curious about everything else that might turn up. Serious birders, botanists, and entomologists all have their specialized guides, but this book is *the* guide to "everything else" — the one guide to take when you go out for a walk. Wow, that's a cool-looking mushroom. Wonder what it is. Hey, look at that weird insect. Birds, mammals, trees, wildflowers, insects, reptiles, amphibians, fish, spiders, mushrooms, ferns, grasses, even constellations overhead and rocks underfoot — it's all here. With authoritative yet broad coverage, nontechnical language, and more than two thousand color photographs, this book is an essential reference for nature lovers living in or visiting Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Whether you're walking in the woods, camping, hiking, canoeing, or just enjoying your own backyard, this book will help identify all your nature discoveries, including birds, mammals, trees, wildflowers, insects, reptiles, amphibians, fish, spiders, mushrooms, ferns, grasses, even constellations overhead and rocks underfoot — it's all here. With authoritative and broad coverage, using nontechnical and lively language and containing more than 2,000 color photographs, this guide is an essential reference for nature lovers living in or visiting the Midwest."

KENN KAUFMAN, originator of the Kaufman Field Guide series, is one of the world's foremost naturalists. KIMBERLY KAUFMAN is the executive director of Ohio's Black Swamp Bird Observatory and a contributing editor to Birds & Blooms.

This guide is great, and will not answer every question you have but is great for identifying more predominant critters and plants/flora and fauna down to family or order. For some it might get you all the way to species, but this is a basic field guide and not an authoritative survey. It will provide enough basic knowledge that all outdoor enthusiasts should know, such as how the constellations will present, which geologic formations are where, conservation information, and will answer enough questions that it is, in fact, a great investment and a great book to keep around when going outdoors. Especially for those that get curious. I must admit though, I am from Oklahoma.

Occasionally, Oklahoma will be lumped in with the Midwest region and I took a gamble and bought the book in hopes that it would be included. It is not in the region covered in the book. Technically, Oklahoma would be a "Western-South-Central State" and is also sometimes lumped in with the South (as it probably should be considering its culture), so it wasn't a huge surprise. So, pay attention to which states are included. However, many of the species included in the book are here in Oklahoma, and other nearby states as well. The book keeps its relevance of course, and I have already used it to identify a few aster-type flowers, tiger beetles, red fox squirrels (although that one is easy in Oklahoma), etc. Other species I found in the book I do also know to be present in Oklahoma, such as the copperhead, black bear, and various others species. In addition, if the species is not exactly what is in the book you can at least know what order or family it is, and go from there. Furthermore, I have used Kaufman guides during Entomology studies at OU. They're very helpful for research in which you need to quickly identify many different families, and get you to the correct dichotomous key. Very useful books indeed.

Great publication, extremely relative to ohio and surrounding statea. I love the layout, its more relaxed than most feild guides but just as informative. I'm a big earth nerd specifically geology and horticulture. Its simple enough for my neices to grasp, (4-10 year olds) yet is such a professional resource. I cannot stress enough how happy I am to have gotten my paws on this. I work in horticulture and use this everyday whether it is to id a bird or a random plant that pops out pf the compost pile. Love this!

My wife was in need of a handbook for the Midwest. This fits the bill. She really likes it. We carry it

ever time we head out on a train for a walk.

I do like this guide, however it doesn't include Missouri- which I always considered part of the midwest.. while I'm sure I can still use it in Missouri I just think it's odd that it's left out. Otherwise it's a nice little guide.. it's covers a lot of basics...

Great reference book...one I will keep in my vehicle for quick use. Covers it all: birds, insects, mammals...all the way to the stars in the sky through the seasons. I live in Texas, and even though the information is based more to the north-central US, there is a lot of information in the book that's pertinent to where I live. Glad to have it!

Not bad, but when I heard it hyped up on our local NPR fund drive, I was expecting more. A lot that I was hoping to see there was not, though in defense of the authors, I suppose one would then need a prohibitively large volume. Several shrubs or small trees that I have tried to identify on my walks on the local bike path are nowhere to be found.

Kaufman's version of the Midwest does NOT include Missouri. Despite this, it's a great very-inclusive field guide for beginners. It's got good detail in plants, animals -the usual birds, insects and even fish, mammals, and arachnids.

This field guide offers detailed, color photos and is easy to use. I recommend it for children as well as adults.

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