



## TREE SWALLOW NESTING GUIDE

### TREE SWALLOW NESTS

- Tree Swallows generally have only one brood per season.
- Nest building begins in the end of April-early May and can take 2 to 4 weeks. The female builds the nest without assistance of the male. Feathers begin to appear on top, increasing each day.
- One egg is laid per day, late March to mid-May, for 4-7 in total. Females may remain on nest during monitoring. Do not attempt to flush her from the nest box. Return and inspect at another time.
- Female broods the eggs about 14-15 days, starting when the next to last egg is laid. Count this as the first day of brooding.
- Eggs may be hidden under a mound of feathers which may make accurate counting of eggs and number of days difficult.
- Hatching may occur over a 1 to 2-day period. Bad weather can delay hatching.
- Hatchlings fledge about 18-22 days after hatching, but 15-25 days is possible. Do not open box after 13<sup>th</sup> day of hatching.

### COUNT GUIDE

### DATE

1 EGG	DAY 1	
2 EGGS	DAY 2	
3 EGGS	DAY 3	
4 EGGS	DAY 4	
5 EGGS	DAY 5	
6 EGGS	DAY 6	
7 EGGS	DAY 7	
1 <sup>st</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 8	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 9	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 10	
4 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 11	
5 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 12	
6 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 13	
7 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 14	
8 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 15	
9 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 16	
10 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 17	
11 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 18	
12 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 19	
13 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 20	
14 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 21	
15 <sup>th</sup> Day of brooding	DAY 22	
<b>Babies hatch between 14<sup>th</sup> &amp; 15<sup>th</sup> day of brooding – Start count all over again after hatching.</b>		
Hatch Day	DAY 0	
1 <sup>st</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 1	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 2	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 3	
4 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 4	
5 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 5	
6 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 6	
7 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 7	
8 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 8	
9 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 9	
10 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 10	
11 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 11	
12 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 12	
13 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 13 <b>DO NOT OPEN BOX FROM THIS DAY FORWARD</b>	
14 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 14	
15 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 15	
16 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 16	
17 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 17	
18 <sup>th</sup> Day of hatching	DAY 18 <b>Nestlings fledge sometime after this day</b>	