



Common checkered skipper on goldenrod



Four-toothed mason wasp on knotweed

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The best way to plant for pollinators:

Control unwanted weeds with non-chemical techniques, and leave small bare patches for ground-nesting bees and wasps. Check regional resources, such as the *NY Flora Atlas* online, to find 'native' plants that are native to your region. Consider devoting resources towards planting local nectar and larval sources instead of eradicating non-natives like purple loosestrife—they often support pollinators as in these photos—but keep them from encroaching on native plants.

Joe-Pye-Weed, wild bergamot, goldenrods, and asters are some of the plants most attractive to pollinators in the Northeast.

Don't forget to plant for both larval and adult insect forms!



Eastern cicada-killer wasp at nest burrow



Milkweed beetles mating on common milkweed



Spicebush swallowtail on cardinal flower



Gnat ogre is a flower-visiting fly



Hummingbird moth on common teasel

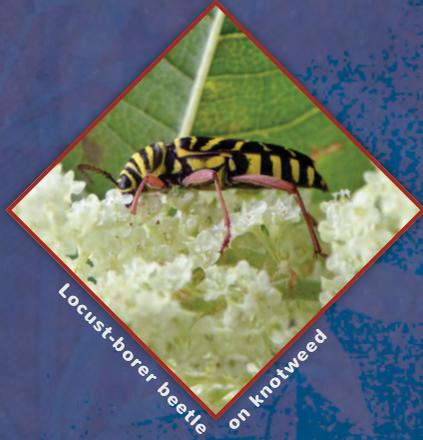


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Pollinators – Not Just Bees!

A glimpse of *Pollinators and their Plants*



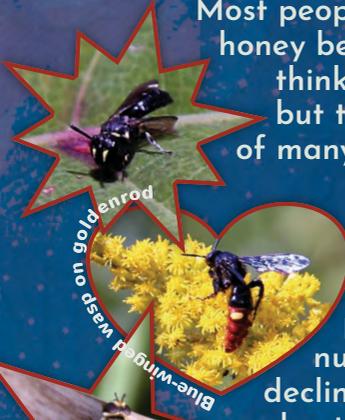
Locust-borer beetle on knotweed

Flower-visiting insects are necessary pollinators of wild plants and crops. Many species visit insect-pollinated flowers and some carry pollen among plants of the same species. Nectar and pollen plants are critical resources for the insects themselves. Insects are attracted to flower structure and color in both visible and UV light.



Meadow fritillary on aster

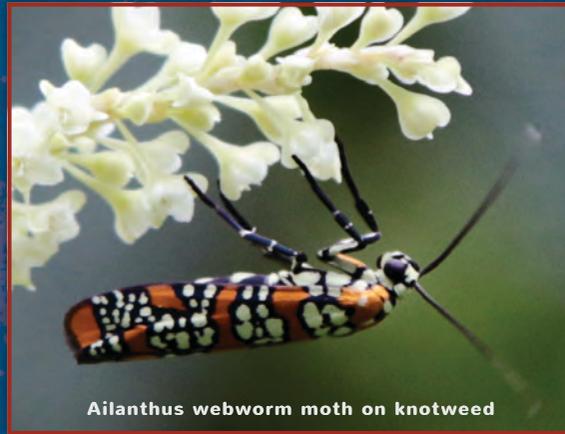
Masked bee



Blue-winged bee on goldenrod

Migrant hoverfly, Scotland

Most people think of honey bees when they think of pollinators, but they are only one of many different insects that perform this crucial role. Unfortunately, pollinator numbers have declined, sometimes drastically, over the past 40 years and if this continues, it will have far-reaching and difficult consequences.



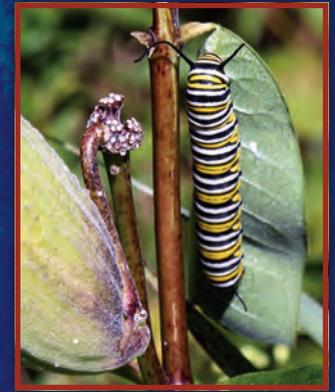
Ailanthus webworm moth on knotweed



Hoverfly on bindweed



Carpenter bee, burnet moth (photographed in France), and gray hairstreak on purple loosestrife



Monarch caterpillar on milkweed

This unfolding crisis has in turn brought attention to the importance of pollinator-friendly plants. Some insect pollinators, as either adults or larvae, can feed only on certain plants, in some cases just a few or a single species.



Feather-legged fly on sweet-clover

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