



BROWN BELTED BUMBLE BEE



LEAF-CUTTER BEE



GOLDEN DIGGER WASP



COMMON BUCKEYE



PANDORUS SPHINX MOTH



BLACK SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLY



GOLDENROD SOLDIER BEETLE

Pollinators of Carl Schurz Park

FACTS

Pollinators and the work they do are essential for earth to be habitable, yet they are rapidly disappearing.

Pollinators are insects and animals who get food from the pollen and nectar that flowers produce. As they move from bloom to bloom, they transfer pollen to other flowers, which leads to fertilization and development of a plant's seeds.



HOVER FLY

Pollinators come in many forms. Bees, butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, wasps and hummingbirds are all pollinators that can be seen in the Park.



LONG-HORNED BEETLE

WATCH "LIVE FROM CARL SCHURZ PARK":



- Most plants in the world reproduce through pollination.
- One of every three bites of our food comes from pollinated plants including chocolate, coffee, tomatoes, berries, avocados and nuts.



- Bees are the largest category of pollinators worldwide and they transfer pollen the most effectively of all.
- Native bees are more efficient pollinators than honey bees, which were brought to the U.S. from Europe.
- **Pollinator decline is a major concern worldwide.**

FOCUS

LEAF-CUTTER BEES (*Megachile*)

- You can find these on flowers in summer.
- These bees collect pollen on hairs (scopae) on their abdomen and take the pollen back to the nest to feed their babies.
 - These cavity-nesters live in the stems of plants, or holes in wood, or in the ground.
 - Their name comes from the fact that they carve off circular sections of leaves, which they take back to their nests to line the cells where they lay each egg.



COMMON BUCKEYE BUTTERFLY (*Junonia coenia*)

- You can find these in pollinator gardens in late spring.
- During their caterpillar stage, they eat leaves of narrowleaf plantains, which we often think of as nuisance weeds in our lawns.
 - When they become butterflies, they search out meadow plants like coreopsis, knotweed and asters for nectar.
 - Females taste the leaves of plants (known as drumming) before they lay their eggs, to make sure they have the right mix of chemicals for their larva (the caterpillar stage).



FUTURE

Maintaining Carl Schurz Park as it is today is essential, but it is not enough.

Urban density, habitat loss, climate change, and species decline are all threats to the Park's future.

With urgent global challenges at the forefront, we have shifted our focus to restore native habitat. By looking at the Park in this manner we will ensure its health and viability for future generations.

Pollinator decline is a major concern worldwide.

The most serious threats to pollinators are changes in climate, destruction of habitat due to urbanization, pesticide use, and disease.

To address these challenges the Conservancy:

- Studies our native bee species with the American Museum of Natural History to guide our efforts to sustain them.
- Creates garden areas that feature native plants that support our pollinators.
- Uses no pesticides.
- Leaves plant stalks standing for overwintering cavity-nesting pollinators.
- Supports insect habitat by leaving parts of the Park as undisturbed as possible.



Steps you can take to join in the effort:

- **By using native plants, you can find pollinators on balconies, terraces, and in tree pits.**
- **Do not use pesticides.**
- **Leave plant stalks for shelter.**

DISCOVER MORE:

