Welcome to the current issue of our newsletter that focuses on the landscape and garden. This newsletter is aimed at the home horticulture/master gardener audience. Mary Kay Malinoski and Dave Clement are coordinating it and please send any contributions to us.

Insects and Other Pests by Mary Kay Malinoski, Extension Specialist, Home and Garden Information Center

Here is our “Bees, Wasps, Butterflies, and miscellaneous good guys” version of our summer HortTips newsletter. Many thanks to Sam Droege for the ID’s on the bees!

Confusing Bumble Bee, *Bombus perplexis*: likes St. John’s wort and honeysuckles

Common Eastern Bumble Bee, *Bombus impatiens*: common and used as a pollinator of greenhouse tomatoes.

Two-spotted Bumble Bee, *Bombus bimaculatus*: common, likes thistles and clovers

Carpenter-mimic Leaf-cutter Bee, *Megachile xylocopoides*: a native bee, increasingly more common.
Female giant resin bee, *Megachile sculpturalis*: native to Southeast Asia, arrived in the 1980’s, over an inch long, and nest in holes and tunnels in dead trees, timbers, etc.

Male giant resin bee is nearly half the size of the female.

Great golden digger wasp, *Sphex ichneumoneus*: preys mostly on grasshoppers, katydids, and crickets.

Goldenrod soldier beetle, adults are commonly seen feeding on pollen and nectar. Larvae live in leaf litter and are predatory.

Keep a variety of flowering plants in your garden to attract many beneficial insects including pollinators, predators, parasites, and butterflies. Make sure to have plants that flower from spring until frost.
Ladybird beetle adult (aka ladybug), great little predator.

Ladybird beetle pupa on a leaf. Leave it be so the beetle can finish development and feed on small insects in the garden.

Young praying mantid enjoying a snack

Cool little jumping spider!
Wheel bug nymph looking for lunch. A face and beak that strike fear in any Japanese beetle!

Assassin bug nymph, notice the reddish abdomen. Don’t kill them, and don’t handle them.

How about a few butterflies….it’s about time we saw some!


Underside view of wing pattern

Young parsleyworm caterpillar on bronze fennel. They also feed on parsley, dill, celery, and parsnip.

Male black swallowtail, *Papilio polyxenes asterius*. One of the parsleyworm parents. Feeds on a variety of nectar sources including milkweeds, ironweed, thistles, butterfly bush, and zinnia.
Tiger swallowtail adult male, *Pterourus glaucus*, yellow form. Nectar sources include milkweeds, thistles, ironweeds, Joe-Pye weed, butterfly bush, etc. Larvae feed on tulip poplar, cherry, spicebush, sassafrass, and ash.

Zebra swallowtail, *Eurytides marcellus*, one of our most spectacular butterflies! Adults feed on various flowering plants for nectar. Larvae only feed on Paw paw…Plant more paw paw.

Please send all submissions, including photos to Mary Kay Malinoski, mkmal@umd.edu or to David L. Clement, clement@umd.edu. Thanks and please contribute!

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