

# Pollinator Safari Report

Location: Tufts Community Gardens, 80 Powderhouse Blvd, Somerville, MA

Date: 7/30/2022

Time: 9-10:30am

Temperature: 85F

Leaders: Nick Dorian

\*Sponsored by Tufts Community Gardens

## Bees

**European honey bee** (*Apis mellifera*)

**Common eastern bumble bee** (*Bombus impatiens*)

**Brown-belted bumble bee** (*Bombus griseocollis*)

**Large carpenter bee** (*Xylocopa virginica*)

- Distinguish from bumble bees by polished black abdomen and dark-mustard thorax with a perfectly round black spot in the middle

**Small carpenter bee** (*Ceratina* sp.)

**Sunflower longhorn bee** (*Melissodes trinodis*)

- males with very long antennae, males sleep on flowers at night
- females with thick brushes of hair on hind legs
- closely associated with sunflowers *Helianthus*

**Hostile leaf-cutter bee** (*Megachile inimica*)

- actually very gentle, likes yellow asters, stores pollen beneath abdomen

**Ligated furrow bee** (*Halictus ligatus*)

**Squash bee** (*Peponapis pruinosa*)

- specialist of squash plants, males sleep in flowers

**Broad-footed cellophane bee** (*Colletes latitarsis*)

- specialist of tomatillo plants, listen for the buzz pollinating!

**Two-spotted longhorn bee** (*Melissodes bimaculatus*)

- all black, likes collecting pollen from squash and corn flowers

**Striped-sweat bee** (*Agapostemon* sp.)

**Sweat bee** (*Lasioglossum* sp.)

**European wool-carder bee** (*Anthidium manicatum*)

- seen with a few people after the safari, males patrol territories of mint/ sage/lavender flowers

**Lunate longhorn cuckoo bee** (*Triepeolus lunatus*)

- seen with a few people after the safari, lays eggs in longhorn bee nests

**Leaf-cutter bee** (*Megachile* sp.) \*likely *M. latimanus*, on lavender

## Butterflies/Moths

**Cabbage white** (*Pieris rapae*)

**Peck's skipper** (*Polites peckius*)

## Wasps

**European paper wasp** (*Polistes dominula*)

**Bald-faced hornet** (*Dolichovespula maculata*)

- social, builds the big basketball sized papery nests in trees

**Hump-backed bee wolf** (*Philanthus gibbosus*)

- solitary, hunts sweat bees, indicates a very healthy bee population

**Mexican grass-carrying wasp** (*Isodontia mexicana*)

- solitary, hunts crickets, 2 generations per year in MA

**Yellow-legged mud-dauber wasp** (*Sceliphron caementarium*)

- solitary, \*very\* skinny waist, hunts spiders, builds nests out of wet mud

### Hover Flies

**Margined calligrapher** (*Toxomerus marginatus*)

**Thick-legged fly** (*Syrirta pipiens*)

### Other Flies

**Common green bottle fly** (*Lucilia sericata*)

**Root-maggot fly** (Anthomyiidae)

### Beetles

**Red milkweed beetle** (*Tetraopes tetrophthalmus*)

**Spotted pink ladybeetle** (*Coleomegilla maculata*)