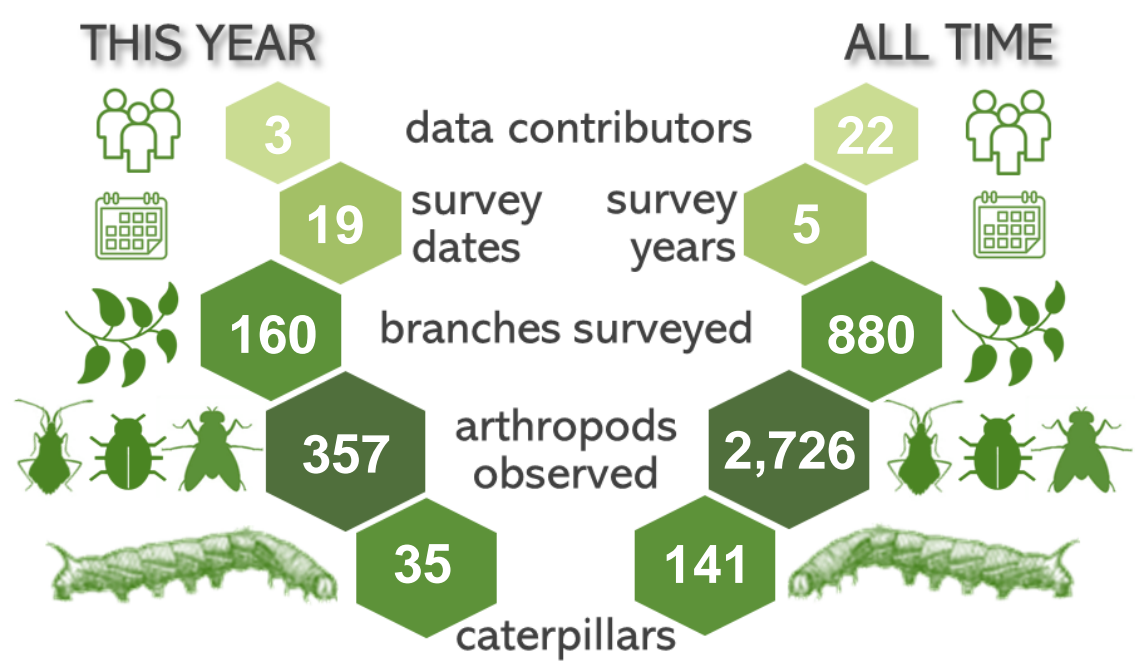




EwA at Fresh Pond, 2023 Summary



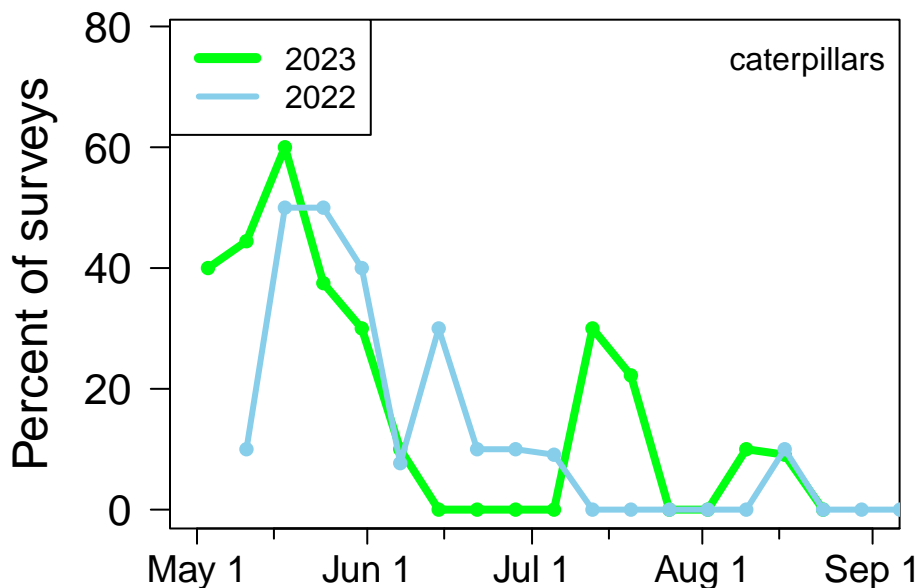
The **160** total surveys conducted at **EwA at Fresh Pond** this year ranks **41st** out of the **79** sites that participated in 2023.

Top Participants of 2023

User	Surveys	Arthropods	Caterpillars	% Caterpillars
C O'NEILL	85	224	22	18.82
K Estrop	50	109	12	18.00
S Gardner	25	24	1	4.00

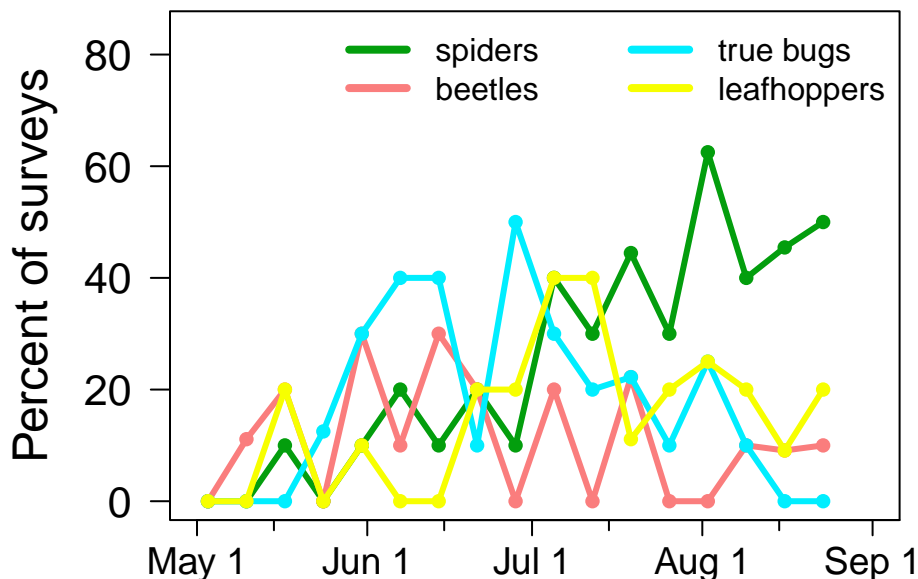
Caterpillar Phenology

As a major source of food for nestlings of migratory birds, we are especially interested in the timing of caterpillar availability. At **EwA at Fresh Pond** in **2023**, caterpillar occurrence peaked at **60%** of surveys on **17 May**. Do you see other peaks as well? How does the pattern compare to the previous year?



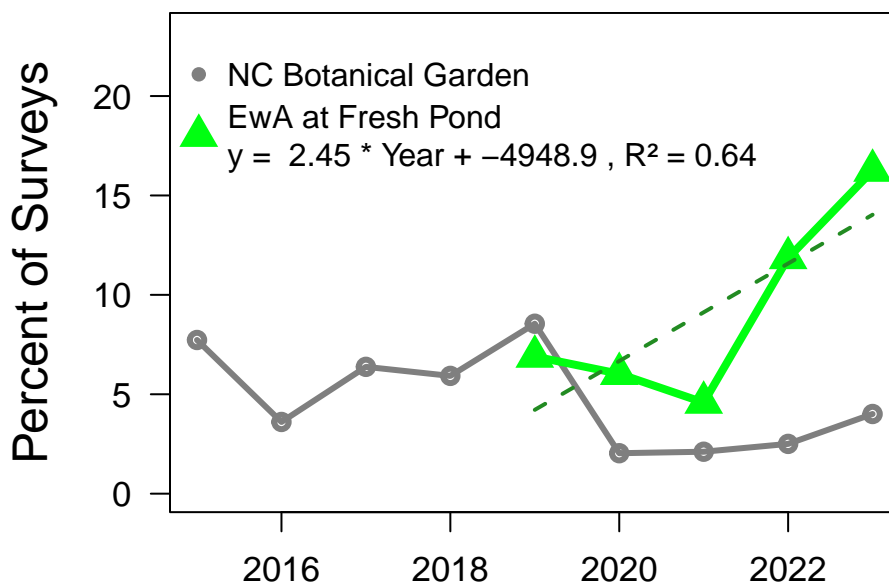
Other Arthropod Phenology

While caterpillars tend to have pronounced seasonal peaks, other groups are more variable. What patterns do you see below for **2023**? You can explore the phenology of other groups on the **Caterpillars Count!** website.



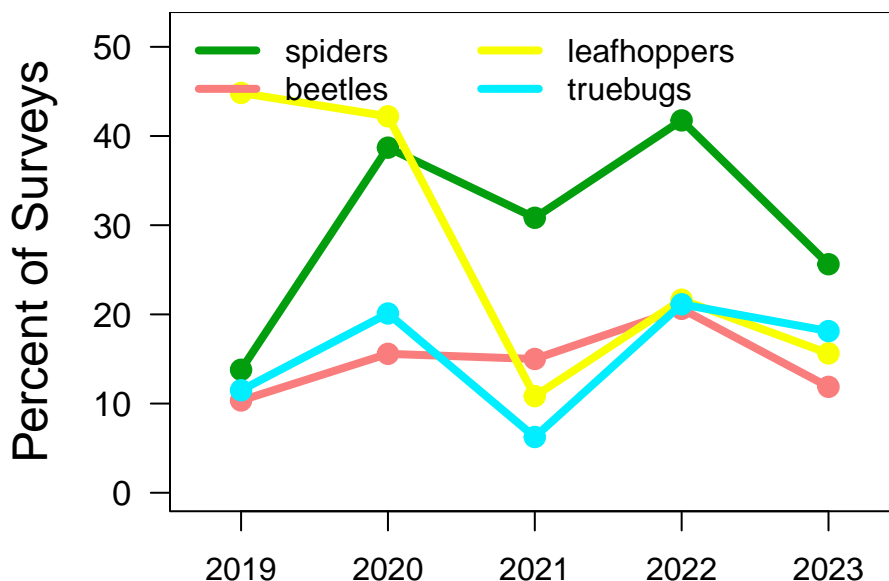
Arthropod Trends

Annual monitoring is critical for assessing the health of ecosystems and evaluating the impacts of environmental change that may be happening in your area. There have been worrying reports of insect declines around the world but there is much we don't know, so your efforts help to fill in pieces of the puzzle. Keep it up!



Above you can see how the proportion of surveys with caterpillars has varied over time at your site, with the trend for one of our flagship sites, **NC Botanical Garden**, for comparison. If you've surveyed for at least 3 years, then you will also see the average dashed trend line displayed.

Below are trends for some other common arthropod groups. Do the different groups go up and down in sync, or seem to vary independently?

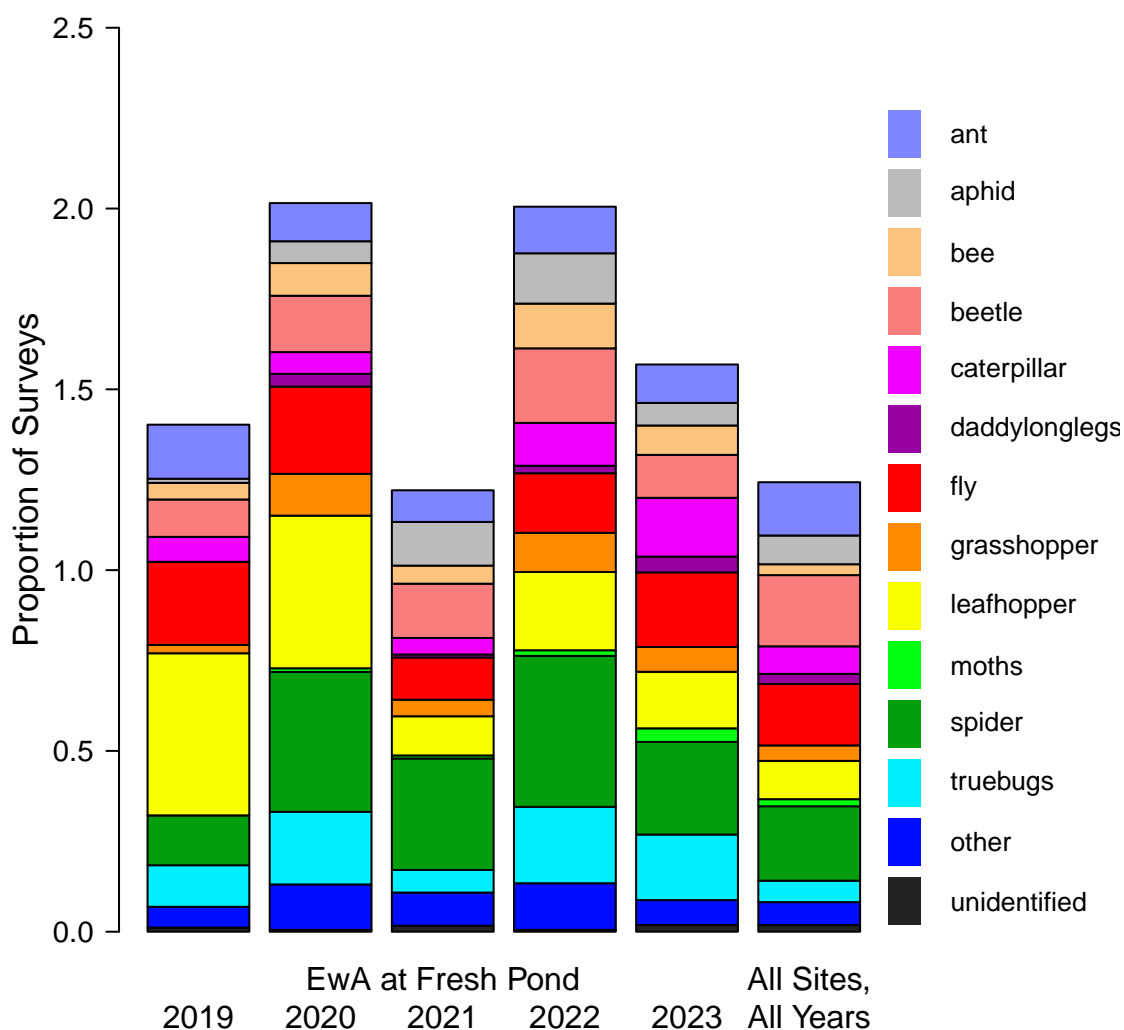


You can explore trends for more arthropod groups, and compare trends at different sites, on your site's Trends Page. See also our November 2021 newsletter for more on how to interpret these trends.

Site Arthropod Composition

Some arthropods are more commonly encountered than others. The graph below portrays the occurrence (proportion of surveys where a given group was found) for each arthropod group found at your site. See how what was found varies by year (if the site has been participating for multiple years), and how it compares to what has been found across all sites in the **Caterpillars Count!** network (*right bar*).

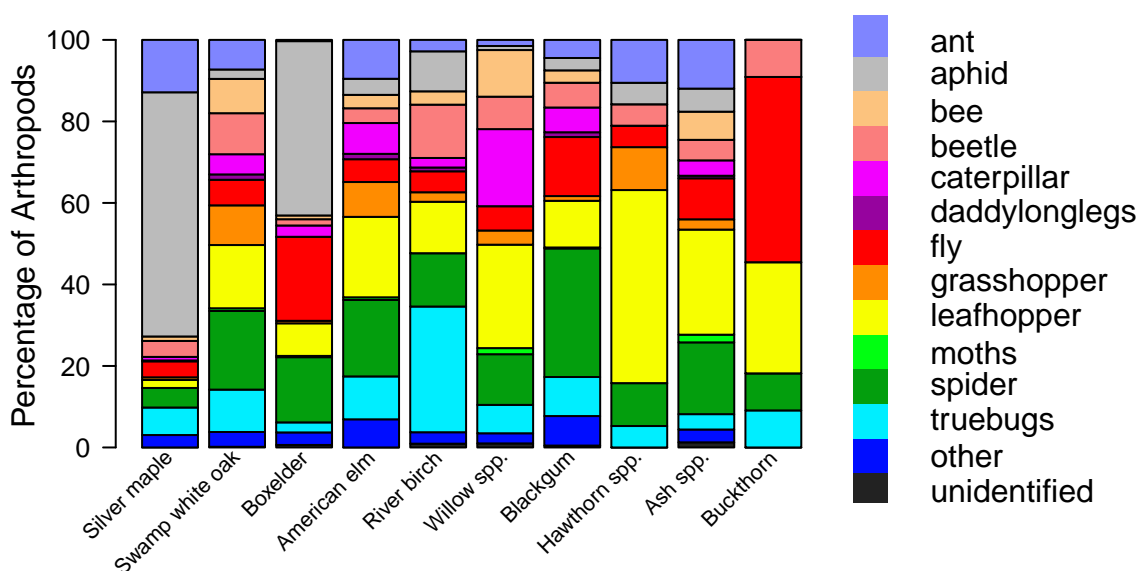
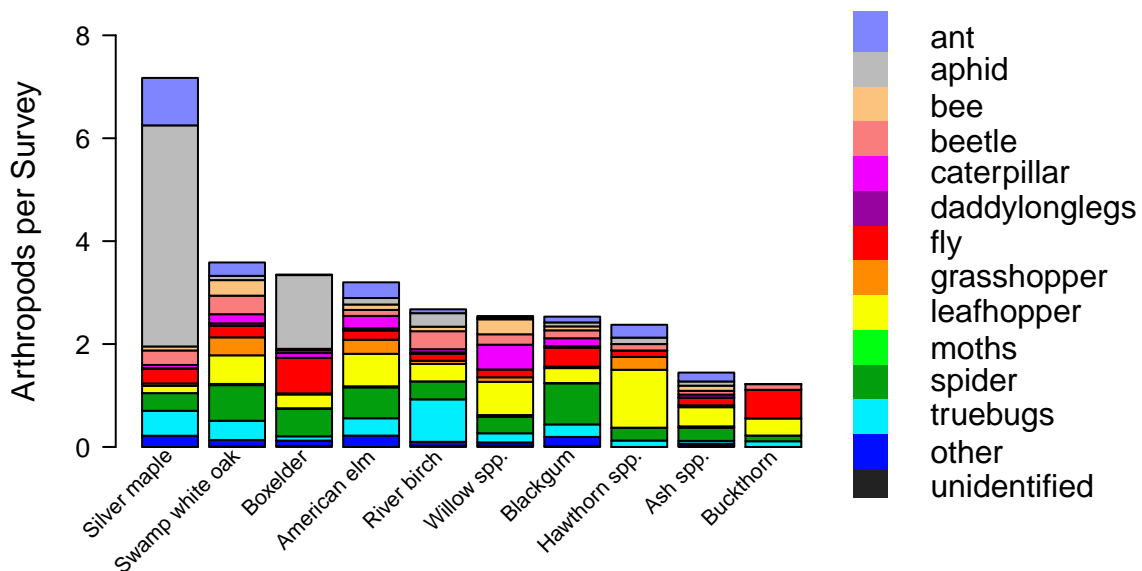
- What are the most common arthropod groups found at your site?
- Has that varied by year?
- Is anything noticeably different about **EwA at Fresh Pond** compared to all other participating sites?
- If arthropod photos were submitted as part of your site's surveys, check the last section of this report for a summary of any finer taxonomic id's that have been made.



Arthropod Composition by Plant Species

For some arthropods like spiders, trees and leaves are merely habitat—a place where they live, hide, and hunt. For others like caterpillars, the leaves are not just habitat, but also food.

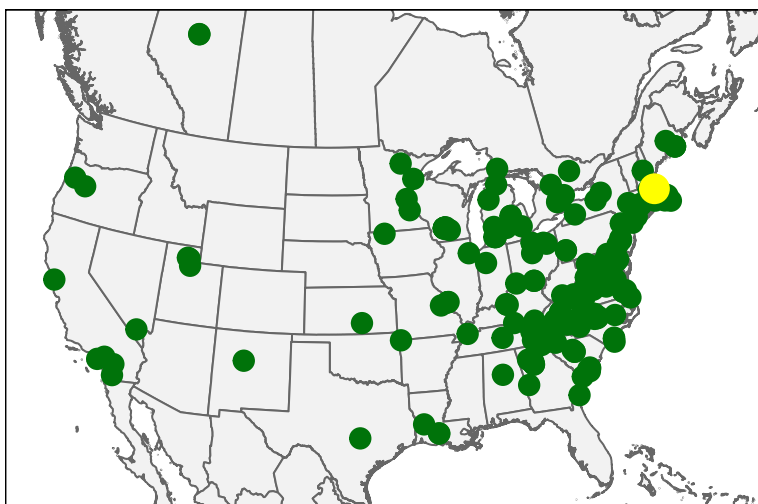
- Which plant species supports the most arthropods per survey?
- Which plant species supports the most **caterpillars**?
- Are any plant species dominated by just one or two types of arthropods?
- Or do they support a diversity of arthropod types?



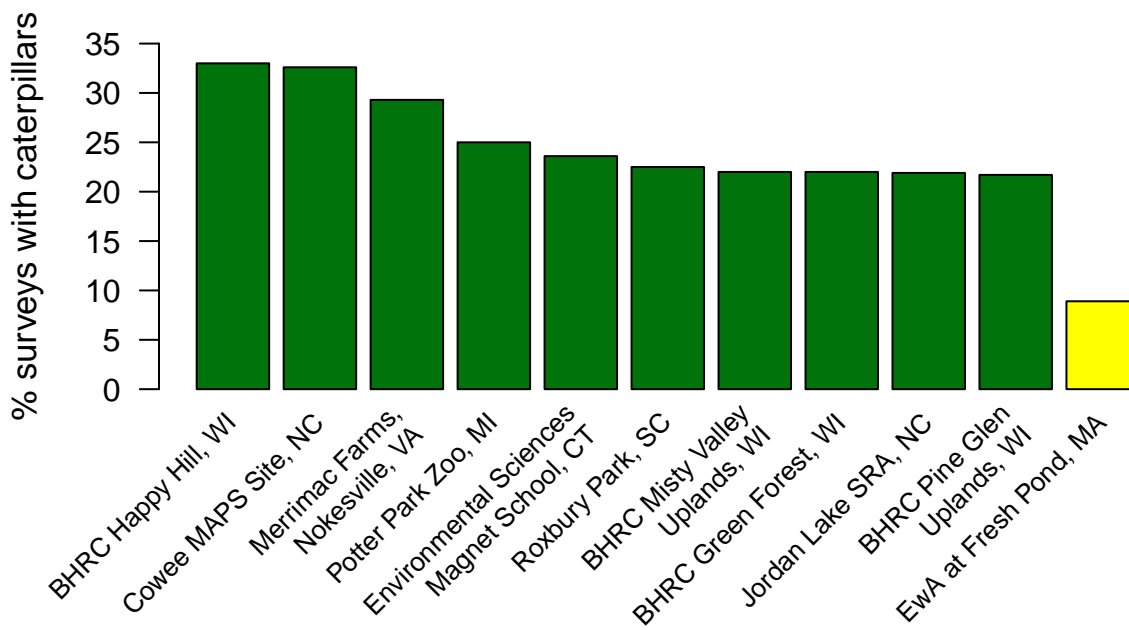
This bottom panel shows, of the arthropods found on a given plant species, what proportion were from each taxonomic group. At most, only the top 25 plant species are shown.

Broader Patterns

Thanks to participants like yourself, **Caterpillars Count!** observers have now submitted a total of **265,734** arthropod observations—including **18,521 caterpillars**—from **219** different sites.



Across all surveys ever done at **EwA at Fresh Pond**, caterpillars have been found **8.9%** of the time, which ranks **50th** across sites. The top 10 sites (with ≥ 20 surveys) are shown below.



Caterpillar occurrence and phenology vary as a function of climate, land cover, tree species, and other local factors, and **your data** are helping us understand this variation and what it might mean for birds. Thank you for participating in **Caterpillars Count!**

Expert Identifications

1368 photo observations from **Caterpillars Count!** surveys have been submitted from your site. You can check them all out at the site's iNaturalist page. Based on these photo observations, experts on **iNaturalist** have identified the following taxa, including at least **75** unique species. Taxa seen for the first time this year are marked with a *.

Caterpillars

Bucculatricidae

Bucculatrix sp.

Depressariidae

Machimia tentoriferella*

Erebidae

Dasychira sp.

Halysidota tessellaris

Gelechiidae

Noctuidae

Acronicta americana

Amphipyra pyramidoides*

Morrisonia confusa*

Notodontidae

Nerice bidentata

Sphingidae

Paonias excaecata*

Moths, Butterflies

Argyresthiidae

Argyresthia oreasella

Gracillariidae

Caloptilia sp.*

Hesperiidae

Tortricidae

Hedya nubiferana

Spiders

Anyphaenidae

Anyphaena sp.

Araneidae

Eustala sp.

Araniella displicata

Neoscona crucifera

Clubionidae

Clubiona sp.

Dictynidae

Philodromidae

Philodromus rufus*

Salticidae

Eris sp.

Hentzia mitrata

Synemosyna formica

Maevia inclemens

Tetragnathidae

Tetragnatha sp.

Leucauge venusta

Theridiidae

Theridion sp.

Theridula emertoni

Thomisidae

Misumena vatia

Misumessus oblongus

Uloboridae

Hyptiotes cavatus

Grasshoppers, Crickets

Gryllidae

Hapithus saltator

Oecanthus fultoni

Oecanthidae

Oecanthus niveus

Neoxabea bipunctata

Tettigoniidae

Meconema thalassinum

Trigonidiidae

Anaxipha sp.

Phyllopalpus pulchellus

True Bugs

Coreidae

Lygaeidae

Kleidocerys sp.

Lygaeus turcicus

Miridae

Hyaliodes harti

Neurocolpus sp.

Plagiognathus sp.

Nabidae

Lasiomerus annulatus

Pentatomidae

Phymatidae

Phymata sp.*

Reduviidae

Tingidae

Stephanitis takeyai*

Leafhoppers, Cicadas

Acanaloniidae

Acanalonia conica

Aphrophoridae

Philaenus spumarius

Cicadellidae

Agallia sp.

Alebra sp.

Eratoneura sp.

Idiocerus sp.

Jikradia olitoria

Macropsis sp.

Oncopsis sp.

Populicerus sp.

Scaphoideus sp.

Colladonus clitellarius

Graphocephala coccinea

Graphocephala fennahi

Graphocephala versuta

Orientus ishidae

Derbidae

Cedusa sp.

Omolicna uhleri

Flatidae

Flatormenis proxima

Metcalfa pruinosa

Ormenoides venusta

Issidae

Membracidae

Cyrtolobus sp.

Entylia carinata
Microcentrus perditus

Aphids, Scales

Aphididae

Beetles

Anobiidae

Ptilinus sp.

Chrysomelidae

Acalymma vittatum

Helocassis clavata

Coccinellidae

Harmonia axyridis

Hyperaspis sp.

Brachiacantha decempustulata

Brachiacantha ursina

Cryptolaemus montrouzieri

Propylea quatuordecimpunctata

Psyllobora vigintimaculata

Curculionidae

Conotrachelus anaglypticus

Cyrtepidomus castaneus

Polydrusus formosus

Elateridae

Eirrhinidae

Dorytomus sp.

Erotylidae

Triplax sp.

Lampyridae

Ellychnia sp.

Lycidae

Calopteron reticulatum

Mordellidae

Falsomordellistena bihamata*

Mordellina pustulata

Pyrochroidae

Pedilus sp.

Scirtidae

Scirtes orbiculatus

Bees, Wasps

Crabronidae

Cynipidae

Encyrtidae

Gasteruptiidae

Gasteruption sp.

Halictidae

Torymidae

Vespidae

Vespula flavopilosa

Ants

Formicidae

Temnothorax schaumii*

Temnothorax curvispinosus

Camponotus nearcticus

Camponotus pennsylvanicus

Myrmica rubra*

Lasius americanus

Nylanderia flavipes

Tapinoma sessile

Tetramorium immigrans

Flies

Asilidae

Ommatius sp.*

Chironomidae

Cricotopus sp.*

Chloropidae

Culicidae

Dolichopodidae

Condylostylus comatus

Lauxaniidae

Homoneura sp.

Micropezidae

Compsobata univitta

Mycetophilidae

Otitidae

Delphinia picta

Syrphidae

Allograpta sp.

Other observations

Blattodea

Ectobius pallidus

Ectobius

Ephemeroptera

Hexagenia*

Neuroptera

Chrysopidae

Chrysopini

Coniopterygidae

Micromus

Psocodea

Graphopsocus cruciatus

Trichoptera

Leptoceridae

Mystacides

Mystacides sepulchralis

Trienodes

Trombidiformes

Anystis

Thank you for participating in **Caterpillars Count!** For a more in-depth exploration of the data check out our Maps & Graphs page. The raw data from your site, or any site, can be downloaded [here!](#)

We can't wait to see what you find next year!



Sycamore tussock caterpillar, *Halysidota harrisii*, at Walker Nature Center, VA.

Allen Hurlbert
Director
Caterpillars Count!