

Beneficial Insects Workshop Agenda



Class Description:

Did you know that the flowers, leaves, soils and mulch in your garden contain beneficial insects that work around the clock to protect it from pests? Meet the beetles, bugs, flies, lacewings and other invertebrates such as spiders and centipedes that provide free pest control. You will also discover plant types and management practices that provide food, water, and shelter to attract and sustain beneficial insects that help your garden thrive. You'll also learn how to keep an eye out for some of the invasive insect pests that currently threaten our state.

Introduction

Roles of Beneficial Insects

- Improved Soil Conditions
- Food for Wildlife
- Aesthetics/Recreation
- Pollination
- Decomposers
- Natural Pest Control

Meet the beneficial insects (and other arthropods)

- Predators
 - Beetles
 - Lacewings
 - Wasps
 - Flies
 - Bugs
 - Mantids
 - Thrips
 - Spiders
 - Mites
 - Centipedes
- Parasitoids
 - Flies
 - Wasps

Invasives to watch out for

- Asian Gypsy Moth
- Emerald Ash Borer
- Asian Longhorn Beetle
- Reporting Invasives

Creating & Maintaining Habitat

- Conservation Biocontrol – *“If you build it, they will come”*
- Food, Water, Shelter
- Integrated Pest Management

Additional Resources

Q&A Session, Evaluations