

HIDDEN LAKE WILDLIFE

What's in, on, and around our lake?

Summer/Fall 2022



**Protect Our Aquatic Life!
Keep Our Lake Healthy!
And Our Wildlife Happy!**

Did you know?

Pollinators **enhance** our lives...



Pollinators play important roles in biodiversity, crop production, and even the economy. Pollination is key to seed production, and without pollinators like hummingbirds, bees, ants, butterflies, wasps, and many others, our favorite fruits and vegetables would never make it to our tables. Pollinators are also key to the survival of wild plant species, they help to control pests that destroy agricultural crops and they help in decomposition, which is extremely important in crop production because the process aerates the soil. Although wasps, ants, and bees don't yield warm and fuzzy feelings for most people, that doesn't mean they should be ignored. Pollinator populations are decreasing. Not only in population, but also in diversity.

Did you know?

Rodenticides **threaten** our birds...

A Place Called Hope, located just about one mile from Hidden Lake – rescues raptors.

“By the time a poisoned raptor makes it to our clinic, it is often too late for us to save them. First Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticide Poisons (FGARs) work by causing its victim to bleed to death after consuming the bait. This poison has a cumulative effect ... to take down ultimately, any sized victim. The poisoned mouse or rat target victim does not die immediately, so it becomes easy prey to all kinds of natural predators who are only seeking a meal to survive. When a secondarily poisoned bird is admitted at our Center, it is often lethargic, seizing, and bleeding out. The result is an agonizing death.”

What can you do?

Create habitat by considering these pollinator essentials.

Forage: Plant a succession of plants that provide year-round nectar and pollen sources

Biodiversity: Plant native plants and avoid invasive plants

Building Materials: Solitary bees need protected nesting sites and materials (ex. hollow plant stems, bare earth, mud, wood)

Pest Management: Use Integrated Pest Management and make informed pest management choices

Shelter: Become a messy gardener! Leaves and debris provide shelter for overwintering pollinators

Water: Provide water or allow puddling, but change water to minimize mosquitoes



HIDDEN LAKE WILDLIFE

What's in, on, and around our lake?

Summer/Fall 2022

Did you know?

Pesticides and herbicides **threaten** our water... and not just the lake – our well water!

Pesticide contamination of groundwater is a subject of national importance because groundwater is used for drinking water by about 50 percent of the nation's population. Before the mid-1970s, it was thought that soil acted as a protective filter that stopped pesticides from reaching groundwater. Studies have now shown that this is not the case. Pesticides can reach water-bearing aquifers below ground from applications onto crop fields, seepage of contaminated surface water, accidental spills and leaks, improper disposal, and even through injection waste material into wells.

What can you do?

Avoid using pesticides, herbicides, and rodenticides. Any material with the suffix “cide” kills. Be mindful and strategic about how, when, and where you use these “cides” and consider the consequences to our water, wildlife, your neighbors, and your own families.

Spotted Lanternfly **threatens** Connecticut's agriculture. . .



A new invasive species is threatening Connecticut's crops and disturbing residents with its sticky sap. The Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) has become a more pressing issue in the state, as the adults will soon be laying eggs from September to May, furthering their spread throughout Connecticut. This spread concerns local officials given the bug's potential devastating effects to the agricultural industry and the disturbance they pose to humans during spring and summer activities. SLF can cause serious damage to host plants, including oozing sap from the trees, wilting, leaf curling, and tree dieback.

What can you do?

Connecticut's neighboring states of New York and New Jersey are seeing current infestations and are calling for their residents to help stop the exponential spread of Spotted Lanternflies by squishing or stomping on the bug. With cases of the bug already confirmed in Connecticut and breeding season right around the corner, the concern is that Spotted Lanternfly could soon establish large infestations in the nutmeg state.



CITATIONS

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/CAES/CAPS/CAES-SLF-Residential-Factsheet.pdf>

<https://www.aplacecalledhoperaptors.com/alternatives-to-rodenticides/>

<https://extension.uga.edu/topic-areas/timely-topics/pollinators.html>

<https://ulster.cce.cornell.edu/gardening/pollinator-support>

<https://www.usgs.gov/special-topics/water-science-school/science/pesticides-groundwater>



For more information - Contact Keha Esposito at kwind159@yahoo.com