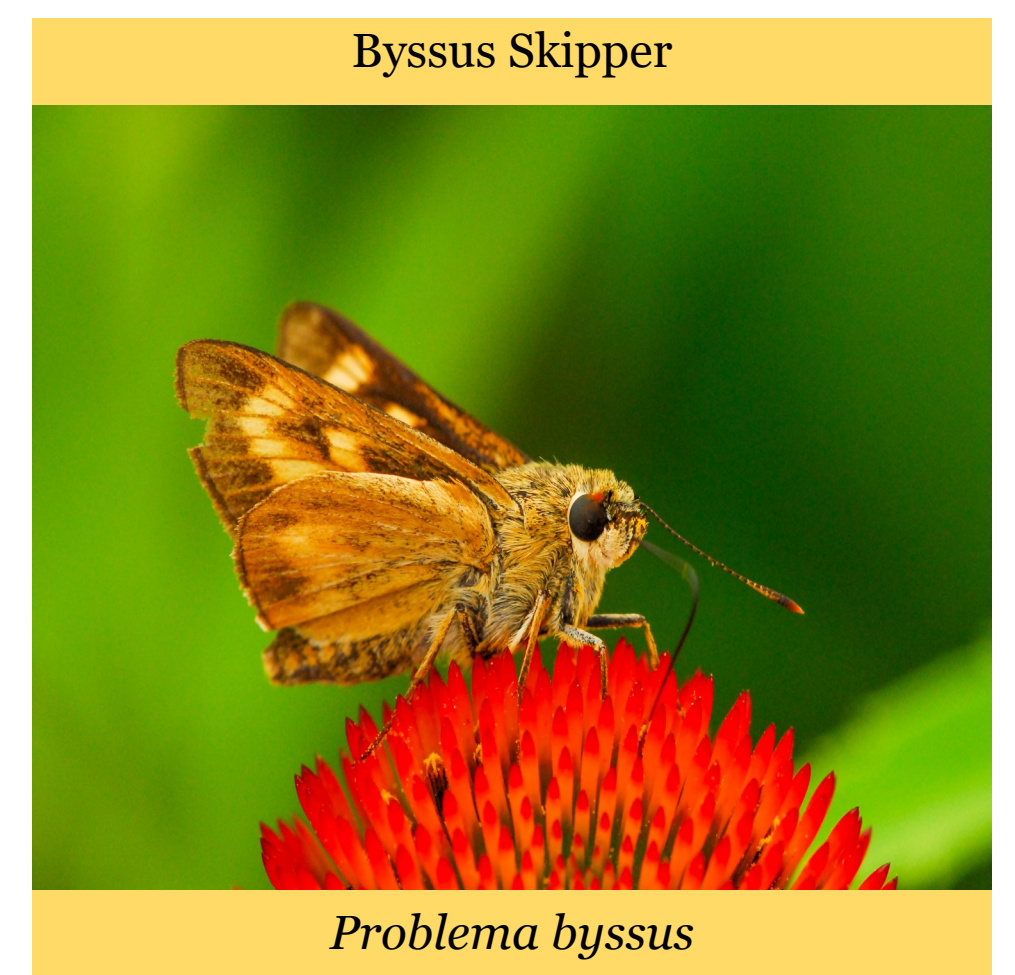
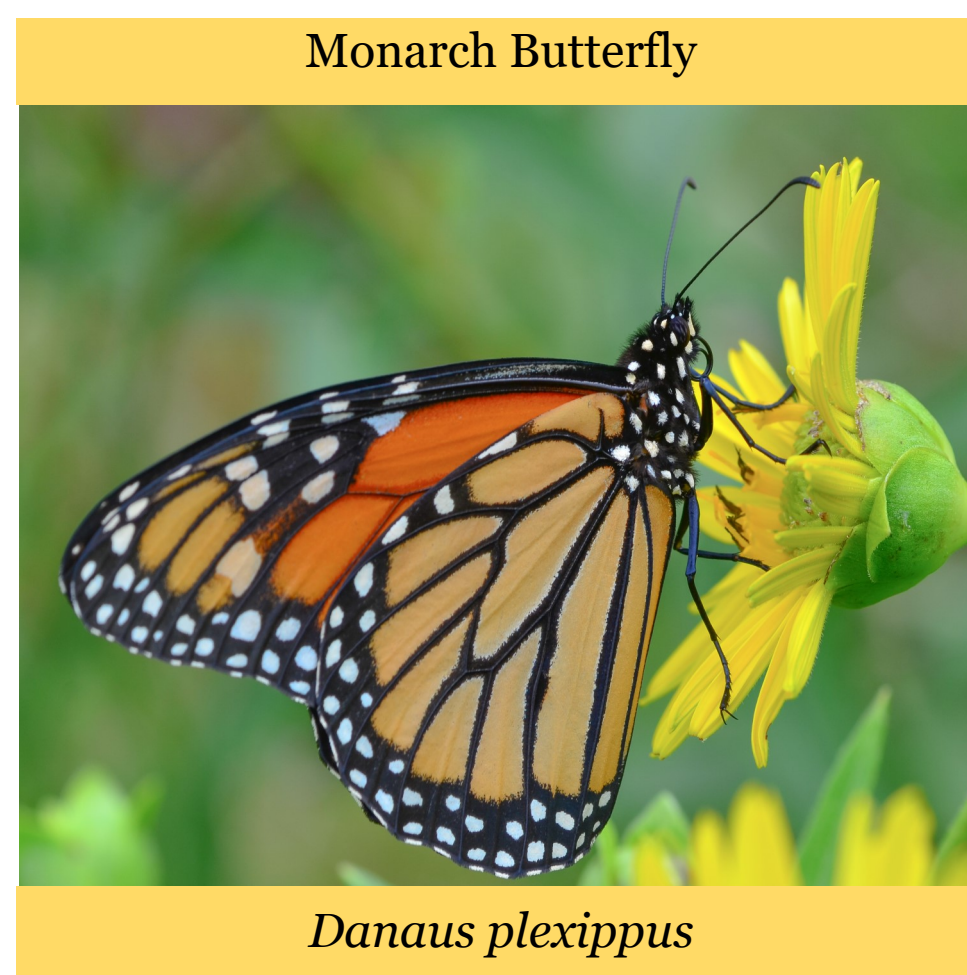
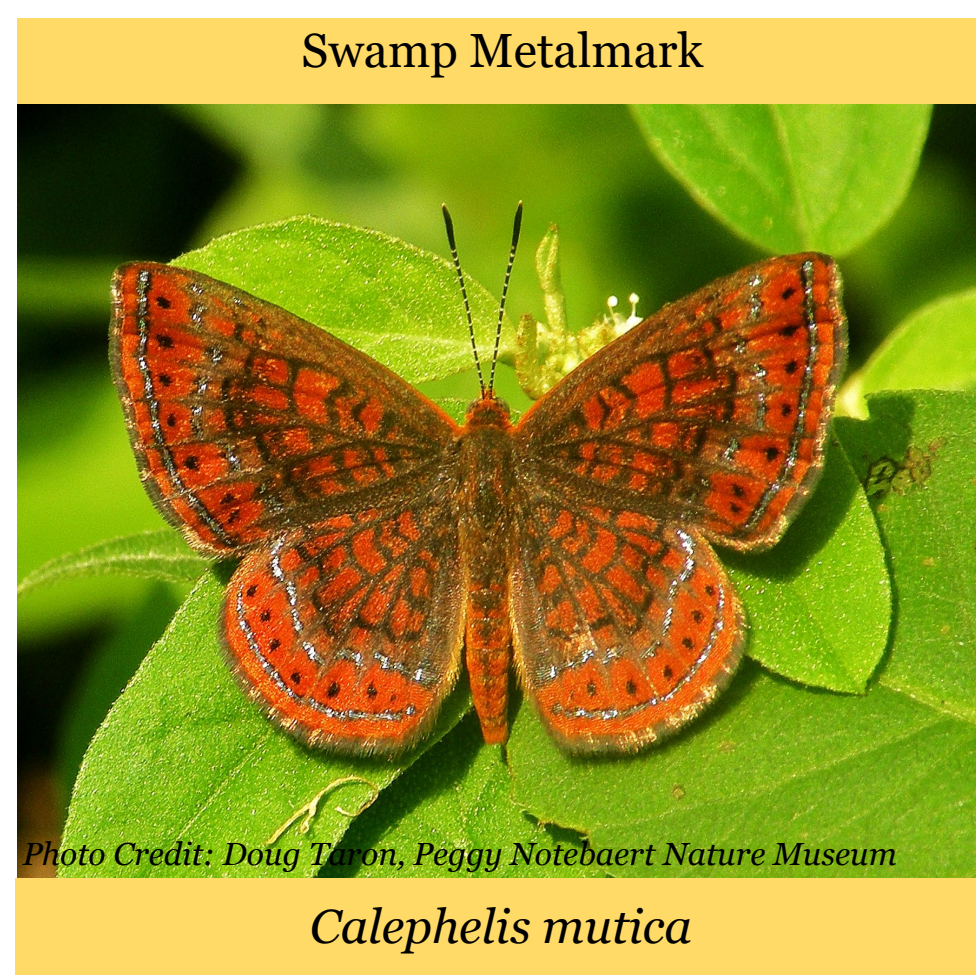
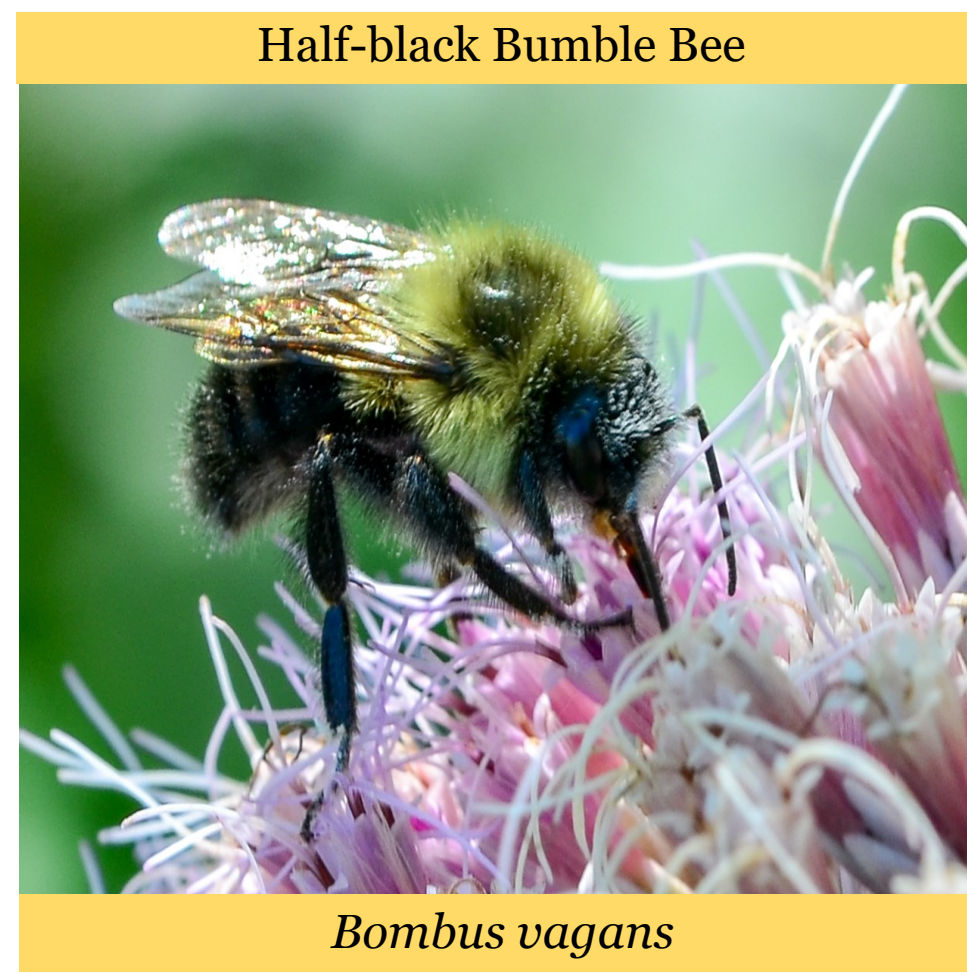
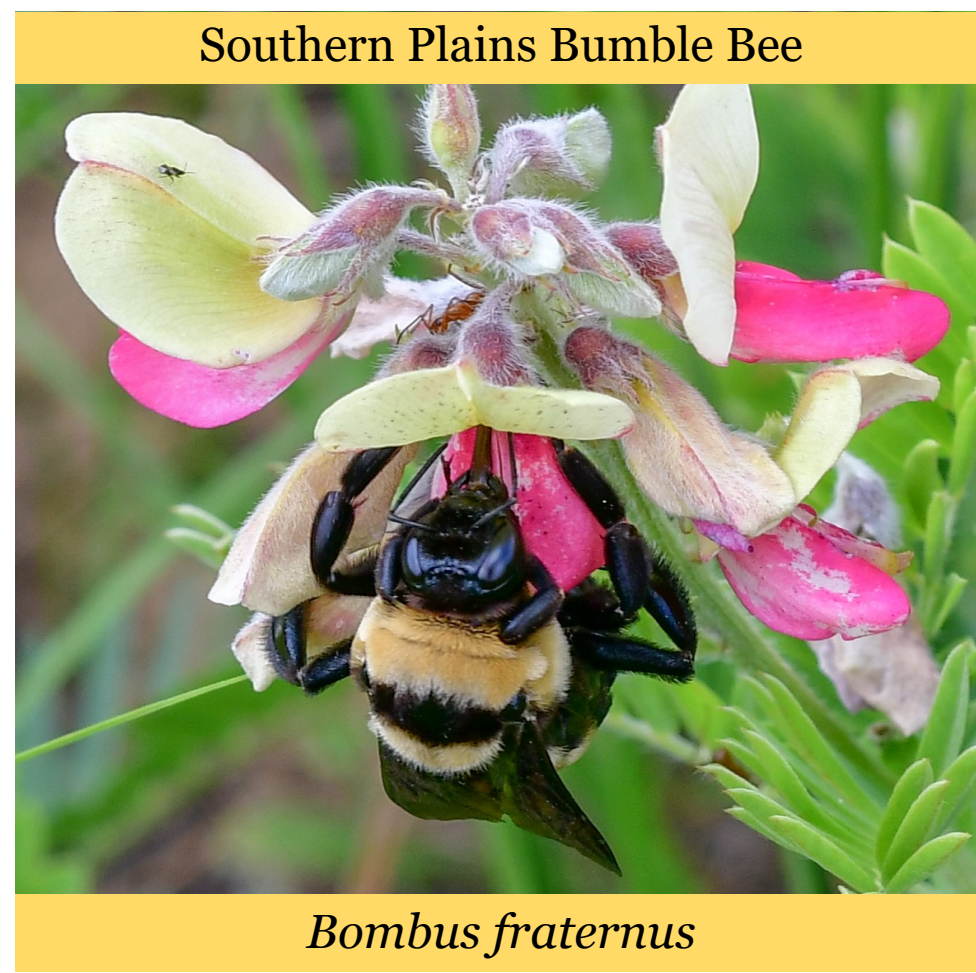




# Important Illinois Pollinators



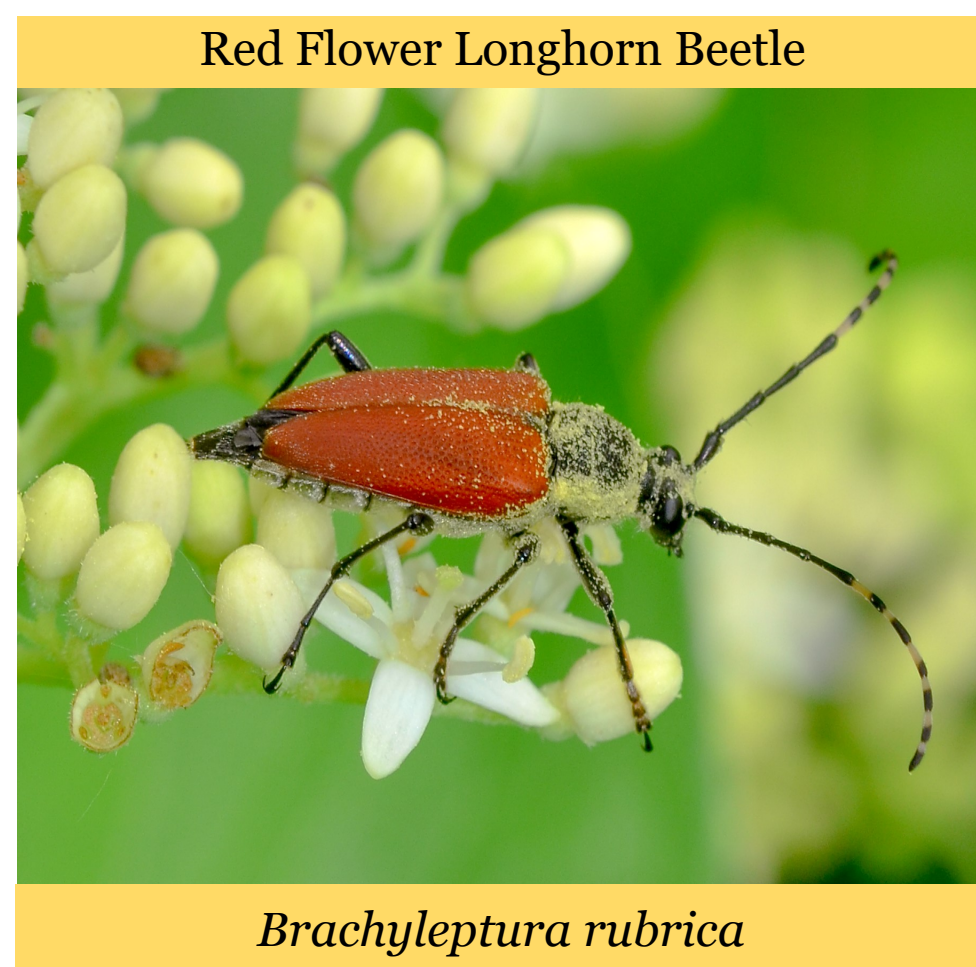
## Species in Greatest Conservation Need



## Illinois Wildlife Action Plan Watch List Species



## Common Pollinators



**P**ollinators are organisms that transfer pollen between plants. The pollen attaches to individuals that land on the plants to feed on their nectar or seeds. The primary pollinators in Illinois are insects and the Ruby-throated Hummingbird.

Unfortunately, pollinators are in decline everywhere. As these important populations decrease, so will the number of plants that require pollinators for their life cycles.

But why should we care about this problem? Pollinators are vital to plant biodiversity and viability, including crop production. Not only do they contribute to the survival of important plants for food, drink, and medicines, but they also pollinate plants critical to providing clean air, stable soils, and support for other wildlife.

**F**ortunately, you can provide for pollinators through simple actions right in your own backyard. Planting native plants — such as flowers with nectar, flowering trees, and bunch grasses — will allow pollinators to flourish with food and nesting sites. Additionally, using chemicals as little as possible and mowing on a higher level will help ensure their survival. Planting a variety of native plants will attract a great diversity of pollinators. For more information on Illinois pollinators and native plants, please visit the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' website.

The native plants depicted above are identified as follows: (1,3) Joe Pye Weed, (2) Goat's Rue, (4) Butterfly Weed, (5,9,10) Common Milkweed, (6) *Euphorbiaceae*, (7) Rosinweed, (8) Purple Coneflower, (11) Purple Prairie Clover, (12) Leadplant, (13) Spring Beauty, (14) Dogwood, (15) Rattlesnake Master, and (16) Old Field Goldenrod.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16