



# The Shooting Star

## October- November 2022

# Newsletter

*“Dedicated to the study, appreciation, and conservation of the native flora and natural communities in Illinois.”*

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Space is limited for this tour so please register at: <https://forms.gle/L5faGcMKwdxmduiK9>

### INPS Management Field Tours

Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>

10am – 3pm

to register, contact  
[Southernillinoisplants@gmail.com](mailto:Southernillinoisplants@gmail.com)

Join the Southern Chapter of the Illinois Native Plant Society on a tour of two properties in Union co. to visit with a landowner who has homesteaded for over 40 years and visit the Trail of Tears State Forest with a district forester

Join the southern chapter of the Illinois Native Plant Society for a presentation:

**The evolutionary history of the goldenrods (*Solidago*),  
with comments on Illinois species**

by Dr. James Beck of Wichita State University  
on Wednesday, November 16 at 6:30 pm  
via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/99671998525>



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## *Message from the Southern Chapter President*

Hey everyone,

Fall is here! We've made it through the summer temperatures and are now skipping into the *solidagos* and *symphyotrichums*.

Thanks to everyone that made it out to the past events that we've held. We plan to continue with the back-to-school botany again in the future to introduce kids to botany at an early age. This event was hosted in partnership with Giant City State Park. Activities included a scavenger hunt and pattern recognition using various leaf patterns.

The greenhouse tours at Southernwoods gardens were also well attended; thank you to our wonderful hosts. The importance of locally grown native plants is so important. We are lucky to have them in our community. The kayak tours are a hit! Aquatic plant identification is a skill that takes time to hone, probably because we don't always get close enough to see what's growing. Thank you to our tour guide and partnership with U of I Extension.

These events have been advertised on the southern chapters facebook page and email mailing list. If you want to be added to the email list, send a message to [southernillinoisplants@gmail.com](mailto:southernillinoisplants@gmail.com).

It's been dry these past few months and I'm noticing the leaves beginning to fall, some sooner than usual. Walnut and tulip poplar trees start to show the season fast. They don't usually put on that great of a color show though. One of the best fall colors in my opinion are the tupelo trees. They turn bright red and almost glow when you look at them. Nobody likes sweetgum trees because of their fruit, but you can't deny their fall color show.

Later this month we will be hosting a day of field tours at the Trail of Tears State Forest and at a nearby landowners property in Union county. This will be a day of fun observations about the options for forest management and to talk about what others have done to their properties. These tours will be held on Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> from 10-2pm with a break for lunch. If you were wondering, yes, we will be looking low and identifying the plants we see! Hope to see you all soon. ~Nick Seaton

**“One of the best fall colors in my opinion are the tupelo trees. They turn bright red and almost glow when you look at them. Nobody likes sweetgum trees because of their fruit, but you can't deny their fall color show.”**

### *Feature Plant of the Month*

**Indian Pipe,  
*Monotropa uniflora***

This plant can appear mysterious and eerie as it emerges out of the leaf litter, seemingly disguised as a mushroom. However, it is actually a perennial wildflower that does not need photosynthesis to live, giving to its ghostly appearance. It is saprophytic, meaning it derives its energy from decaying organic matter and fungi, residing at the base of trees. They usually grow in small clusters in deciduous woodlands and forests where organic matter is abundant. The stems are white to somewhat pink, smooth, and translucent. The flowers are urn-shaped and nodding with only one flower per stalk, hence the genus name.



Photo courtesy,  
Nick Seaton



2022



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southernillinoisplants@gmail.com  
www.facebook.com/southernillinoisplants

### Calendar of Events

Dec. 11                      INPS                      Winter Gathering                      Scratch Brewery,  
Ava, IL

Illinois Natural History Survey News: Check out the latest newsletter, posted in September

<https://emails.illinois.edu/newsletter/862879887.html>

Fellow INPS members,

Submit your best botanical shots for the year! We'd like to showcase your work at our annual Winter Gathering on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at Scratch Brewery in Ava, IL. Pick 5-10 (or less) of your favorites and send them to [southernillinoisplants@gmail.com](mailto:southernillinoisplants@gmail.com).

Virginia bluebells, *Mertensia virginica*  
Photo courtesy, Chris Evans



Interrupted fern, *Osmunda claytonia*  
Photo courtesy, Chris Evans



Lower Cache Access,  
Photo courtesy, Nick Seaton



Horseshoe Lake,  
Photo courtesy, Jennifer Behnken

## WHY FOREST RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT ARE IMPORTANT

The Southern Chapter of the Illinois Native Plant Society would like to voice our thoughts on forest restoration and management.

The future of the Shawnee National Forest has recently received considerable attention in local media. Whichever federal agency oversees the Shawnee, the need for forest restoration and management will remain high to conserve species diversity, promote healthy ecosystems and safeguard communities within the Shawnee, particularly in the face of accelerating climate change.

The Board of the Southern Chapter of the Illinois Native Plant Society voices our support for forest restoration and management throughout the region on federal, state and private lands. The common tools of conservation professionals include surveys to identify areas most in need of protection, management or restoration, followed by invasive species removal, forest stand improvement, prescribed burning or species re-introductions when needed. These proven, scientifically tested methods are recognized locally, regionally, nationally and internationally as effective means to manage and maintain local ecosystems

Invasive species removal is critical because invasive species outcompete our native species, and lower diversity when allowed to spread unchecked. Some can disrupt natural, otherwise minimally disturbed ecosystems and unbalance them through shade and/or chemical changes to soil, producing invasive monocultures. As native plant species disappear, so too do their dependent animal pollinators and herbivorous insects, reducing food for native birds and mammals. There are numerous invasive species that are problematic in our region.

Prescribed burning and thinning are important well-studied tools for reducing shade in the forest understory. Infrequent low intensity fires were a natural component of our regional oak-hickory forests and prairies prior to European colonization. Without fire or thinning, many dominant tree species such as our oaks fail to reproduce because insufficient sunlight reaches saplings in the shaded understory. In addition, herbaceous plants die in the shaded understory, which decreases infiltration of water into the soil, reduces fertility, and promotes rapid run-off and soil erosion because their fine roots are no longer there to absorb. Tree roots alone cannot promote infiltration and prevent erosion.

It is with these points in mind that we support the management of our local natural areas.

### Chapter Officers

President – Nick Seaton

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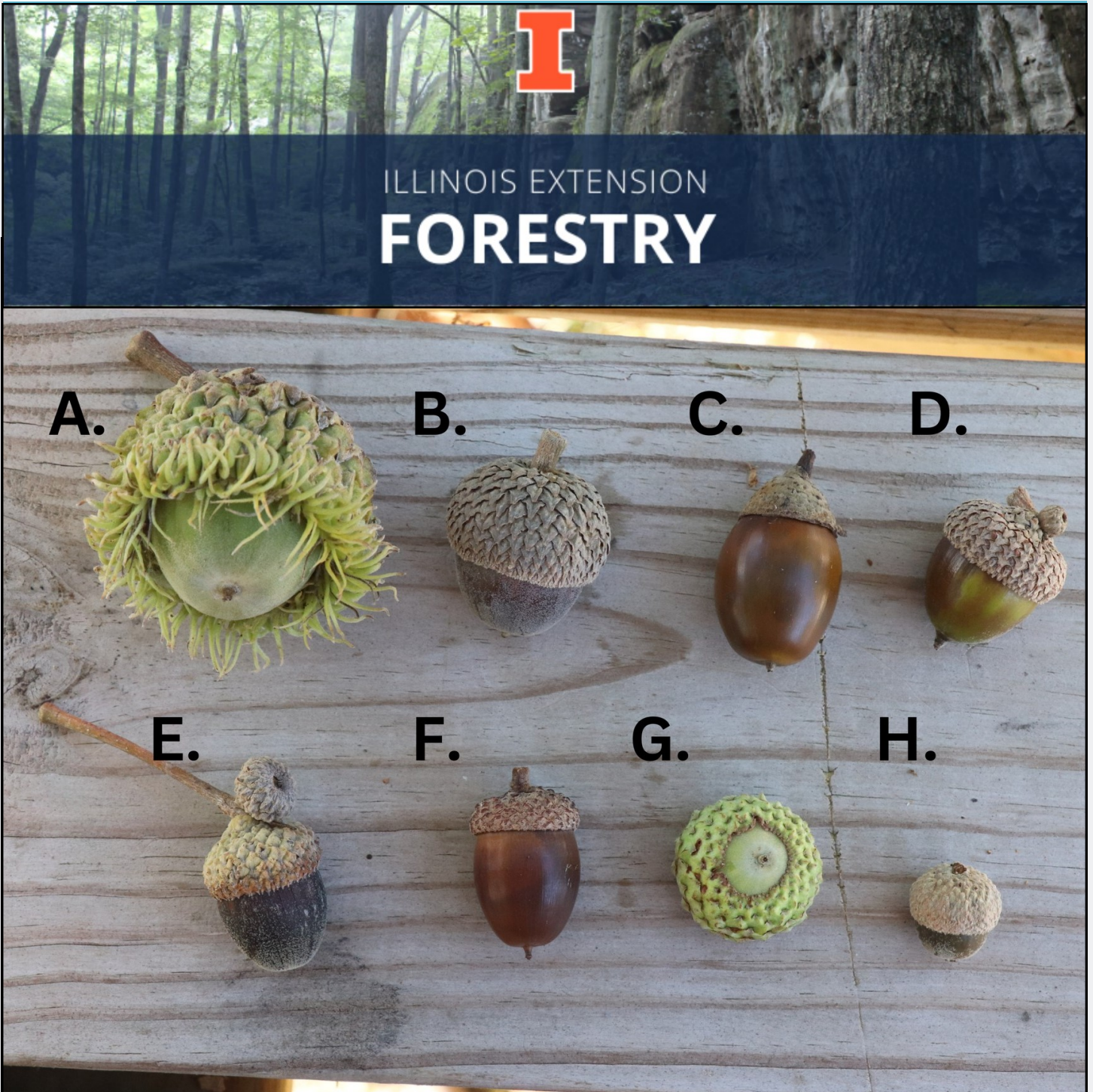
At-Large – Jenny Lesko

At-Large – Kate Tillotson

Contact: [southernillinoisplants@gmail.com](mailto:southernillinoisplants@gmail.com)







Celebrate with University of Illinois Extension Forestry for Illinois Oak Awareness Month, or Oaktober! Check out their Facebook page for the latest tidbits, interesting information, and neat pictures of various oak species (*Quercus spp.*) native to Illinois. Test your knowledge on this latest acorn identification quiz! Answers are below:

A: Bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)

C: Chestnut oak (*Quercus montana*)

E: Swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*)

G: Overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*)

B: Swamp chestnut oak (*Quercus michauxii*)

D: Chinquapin oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*)

F: White oak (*Quercus alba*)

H: Post oak (*Quercus stellata*)

<https://extension.illinois.edu/forestry>



## *Local Events & Announcements*

### Giant City, Off the Beaten Path



**SIERRA CLUB**  
ILLINOIS CHAPTER

Date: Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Jennifer Randolph-Bollinger, Natural Resources Coordinator, Giant City State Park

Location: Via Zoom. (Registration information and access to the Zoom link for this program will be shared by email and on our website event page, <https://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee/events>; scroll down to the spreadsheet at the very bottom, click open this event's title and fill out your name, email and info. The spreadsheet is also at [www.sctrips.org](http://www.sctrips.org).)

At close to 1 million visitors a year, most people have walked the “streets” of Giant City and visited the CCC built lodge. But Giant City SP has lesser known treasures to find if you know where to look. Join Jennifer Randolph-Bollinger, as she shares of her favorite off-the-beaten-path gems, such as rare and interesting plants, “secret”

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION

## HOME, YARD & GARDEN PEST

NEWSLETTER

**Tips for Attracting Monarch Butterflies to Gardens and Landscapes: read the full article by visiting <https://hyg.ipm.illinois.edu/article.php?id=1316>**

#### **Choose a garden location with north-south access:**

In Baker's research, more monarchs were counted in gardens in locations with north and south access. Since monarchs travel toward the north or south in their migration, access to gardens from those directions is most beneficial. This means that planting a garden along the east or west side of a building or fence is beneficial because it allows monarchs to easily enter the garden from the north or south.

**Plant milkweed where monarchs can see it:** Monarchs locate host plants visually, so making sure milkweed plants are easy to see by passing butterflies is key. This can be done by:

**Planting milkweed along the perimeter of gardens:** In research, more monarchs were found on milkweed plants placed along the perimeter of gardens compared to those located in the center or mixed throughout the garden.

**Plant milkweed in structured gardens:** More monarchs were found on milkweed in structured gardens where plants were spaced and separated by mulch compared to gardens with dense mixtures of plants. In dense plantings, non-host plants may grow around the milkweed, making it difficult for monarchs to see and locate the milkweed.

#### **Preferred milkweed species: Tall milkweed species were preferred**

More monarchs were found on taller species of milkweed like swamp milkweed, common milkweed and showy milkweed.

Smaller species are still beneficial to monarch but may not attract as many monarchs. Smaller plants are also great for bee diversity in the garden.

**Nativars were just as helpful for monarchs in gardens** Nativars are native species that have been bred or cloned to produce showier flowers. Research found no difference in the number of monarchs or the development of caterpillars on nativar milkweed compared to the wild-type of the same milkweed species. While it is fine to use nativars in gardens, we don't recommend using nativars in nature preserves or protected areas.

Also check out a follow up article:

#### **Insects on Milkweed in the Home Landscape**

<https://hyg.ipm.illinois.edu/article.php?id=1319>



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30**

1-3:30pm

# Boo at the Slough

*Hike through the Egret Slough Trail on a  
guided trick-or-treating adventure to meet  
misunderstood creatures of the swamp.*

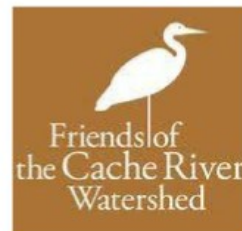
Cache River Wetlands Center  
8885 State Route 37 South | Cypress, IL 62923

Free and open to the public  
Register at [go.illinois.edu/booaattheslough22](https://go.illinois.edu/booaattheslough22)



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Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

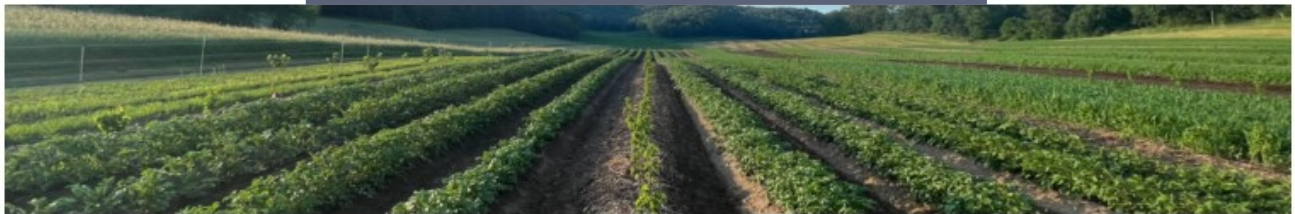




Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3s1zyJQ>



**Free Public Webinar**

## **Agroforestry 101- How Trees Can Support IL Farms and Landscapes**

October 26th, 2022 2pm-3pm Central



Presenter: [Kaitie Adams, IL Community Agroforester](#) Savanna Institute

This webinar will focus on agroforestry practices that are perfectly suited for farm landscapes across Illinois. Using real-world examples from working lands, we'll cover how to incorporate trees and perennials onto your landscape for conservation, profit, and beauty through multi-functional windbreaks, hedgerows, alley cropping, and riparian buffers. Savanna Institute provides opportunities for technical advising, resource connection, and implementation options for farmers and landowners.

Come ready to ask lots of questions and get excited about an abundant perennial future! Kaitie leads the Illinois Demonstration Farm program and helps build community through agroforestry education across the state and beyond. Her background in anthropology (MA 2015, SIUC) helps illuminate the deep ecological and social connections created through agriculture and informs her work in building bridges between landowners, farmers, industry builders, and researchers. In addition to planting trees and talking about pawpaws, she teaches community classes on seasonal cooking, fermentation, and canning and runs Red Crib Acres, a small apple orchard on rented land, with her husband John Williams.



# Invasive Species Corner

Please look at the following resources for the latest in Invasive Species news.

<http://www.rtrcwma.org>  
<https://www.frstillinois.com>  
[www.sipba.org](http://www.sipba.org)

## Japanese chaff flower

*Achyranthes japonica*  
(*Amaranthaceae*)

**Chaff Flower is an invasive plant that is spreading quickly across the Southern Illinois region and neighboring states**



**Seeds are easily dispersed on the fur of animals and clothing especially in the fall  
Avoid infested areas to prevent further spread**



### New Guide Available on Handling Pesticide Drift Complaints

Pesticides play an important role in managing pests, but they must be used responsibly and according to label directions so that they don't endanger people, pets, livestock, plants, and the environment. While there is much work done to educate pesticide users about safety and most applications are made according to label directions, cases of misuse still occur unfortunately. The most common type of pesticide misuse is pesticide drift and when it occurs, emotions can run high while seeking answers. Additionally, time is of the essence.

While written for producers and gardeners, this new guide could be beneficial to really anyone affected by drift. It can be used to help navigate the often challenging task of determining if pesticide drift could be the cause of injury to sensitive plants and if so, what to do about it. The guide discusses, what drift is, how it can be prevented, what if it occurs, who can help, what role each involved party plays, the drift complaint process, answers to common questions concerning drift injury and complaints, contacts for suspected exposure and first aid, and health and environmental concerns about pesticides.

This new guide can be found at the University of Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program's website under Resources or by visiting:

<https://tinyurl.com/4j4kdwt6>





# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

## Invasive Species Removal at Garden of the Gods

**Tues. Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29 and Sat. Nov 12 – 10a.m.-2p.m.**



**Join the Friends of the Shawnee National Forest, the United States Forest Service, River to River Cooperative Management and University of Illinois Extension Office in an effort to remove the invasive Autumn Olive that has taken root along the entrance road to Garden of the Gods. This will be pretty physical work; wrenching out trees, chopping roots, cutting branches and removing the debris from the area.**

**Wear appropriate clothing, bring some water, a snack and your hard work.**

**Please sign up at the address below.**

**[go.illinois.edu/AutumnOliveRemoval](http://go.illinois.edu/AutumnOliveRemoval)**

**For more information on this event and future volunteer opportunities, visit our website, our Facebook page or email [volunteer@shawneefriends.org](mailto:volunteer@shawneefriends.org)**

**[www.shawneefriends.org](http://www.shawneefriends.org)**

Friends of the Shawnee National Forest is a 501(c)3 not-profit organization dedicated to promoting responsible outdoor recreation, environmental education, and land stewardship on the Shawnee National Forest. Founded in 2010, our organization works closely with the U. S. Forest Service staff and volunteers to provide high quality recreation and conservation opportunities in Southern Illinois. We value our public lands and encourage all people to get out and experience the scenic beauty of the Shawnee National Forest. Incredible sandstone bluffs, diverse flora and fauna, easy access to rivers, creeks, and lakes, and abundant opportunities to experience nature are just a few of the reasons we love this area. Through a combination of education, community outreach, and advocacy, together we can preserve and protect this extraordinary resource.



## Be on the Lookout for Spotted Lanternfly

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION

The spotted lanternfly (SLF, *Lycorma delicatula*) is an invasive pest that impacts a wide range of plants as it feeds throughout the growing season. This non-native leafhopper was first identified in Pennsylvania back in 2014 and has since spread to 10 other states. Recent discoveries in Indiana and Iowa seem to be a sign of what is to come for Illinois, so we all need to be on the lookout for this new threat.

Over 100 plant species have been identified as hosts for the SLF. In our climate, we should only expect one generation of SLF per year, which hatches from overwinter eggs in the late spring. Nymphs progress through 4 developmental stages, called instars, until late summer when they emerge as adults.

<https://hyg.ipm.illinois.edu/article.php?id=1312>

# SPOTTED LANTERNFLY



ACTUAL SIZE: 1"  
Adult (wings closed) can be found in July–December



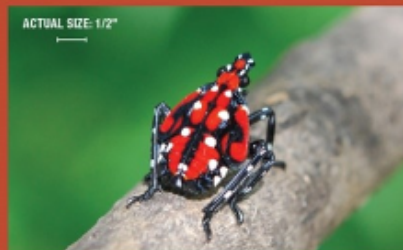
ACTUAL SIZE: 1/8–1/4"  
Nymph (early stage) can be found late April–July



ACTUAL SIZE: 1.5"  
Egg mass (fresh) can be found September–June



ACTUAL SIZE: 1.5"  
Adult (wings open) can be found July–December



ACTUAL SIZE: 1/2"  
Nymph (late stage) can be found July–September



ACTUAL SIZE: 1.5"  
Egg mass (older) can be found September–June

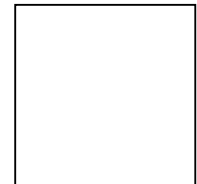
*The various life stages of the spotted lanternfly. Credit: Penn State / Penn State. [Creative Commons](#)*

Nymphs are highly mobile and crawl across the landscape feeding and then moving on to the next plant. They show preference for the tender new growth of trees and shrubs as well as herbaceous plants such as perennials, annuals or even a variety of weed species.

Adults tend to focus on larger woody plants with a strong preference for tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) which is a non-native, also invasive, tree from the SLF's home range. Feeding preference has also been shown for grapevines (wild and cultivated), maples, black walnut, river birch, willow, and sumac among the wide range of known host plants.

Like other leafhoppers, this pest feeds on plant sap using its piercing-sucking mouthparts. They acquire nutrients and sugars from the sap but are not able to completely digest all carbohydrates it contains. So, they excrete the excess sugars as waste, which is commonly referred to as honeydew. This sticky, watery substance coats anything under their feeding area, from parked cars or patio furniture to other plants and animals.

INPS SOUTHERN CHAPTER  
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Carbondale, IL 62903-0271



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*Dodecatheon frenchii* –  
French's Shooting Star

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- Iliamma* (life).....\$1,000.00
- Dodecatheon* (life).....\$2,000.00
- Erigenia* (life).....\$3,000.00

Please make checks payable to: Illinois Native Plant Society, Attn: Dr. Nancy Garwood  
Life Science II—Mailcode 6509 Southern Illinois University 1125 Lincoln Dr. Carbondale, IL 62901

**The Harbinger Newsletter** is sent electronically by email.

- Check here to receive the newsletter BY MAIL

**Erigenia**, our scientific journal, is now available digitally as well as in print.

Please indicate your preference for receiving the journal.

- Email only
- Postal Mail only
- Both

**Chapter Affiliation**

- Central (Springfield)
- Northeast (Chicago)
- Forest Glen (Westville)
- Quad Cities (Rock Island)
- Grand Prairie (Bloomington)
- Southern (Carbondale)
- Kankakee Torrent
- Other/Uncertain \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to help with:**

- Leadership & Organization (serving on board at State or Chapter level)
- Giving Workshops &/or Seminars
- Public Media/Communications
- Leading Field Trips & Tours
- Public Speaking
- Writing/Submitting articles
- Organizing Workshops &/or Seminars
- Fund Raising
- Photography
- Website Assistance/Management
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**My area of expertise:** \_\_\_\_\_