



## A GOOD WASP FOR THE JOB!

The Smoky-Winged Beetle Bandit (*Cerceris fumipennis*) is a wasp that hunts beetles to feed to its young, and one of its favorite meals is Emerald Ash Borer. EAB, now known in 21 states, was discovered in Berkshire County in 2012 and Essex County in 2013.

## WHY DO WE CARE?

Emerald Ash Borer is a pest that threatens every ash tree in our state. These wasps can act as early detection tools to help slow the spread of EAB. The earlier we can detect an invasive species, the faster we can tackle the problem and protect our trees!

## HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Join our Wasp Watchers program. Volunteers are needed to monitor wasp colonies near you! There is no big time commitment for this project, just a few days in July and August.

Visit [bit.ly/waspwatchma](http://bit.ly/waspwatchma) to sign up today!

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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## WHAT IS WASP WATCHERS?

Wasp Watchers is a citizen scientist project that uses native non-stinging wasps to monitor for invasive beetles like Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

Smoky-winged Beetle Bandits dig nests in the shape of long tubes. Each tube is marked by a round entry hole, a bit bigger than the width of a pencil, and is surrounded by a “volcano” of dirt, like an ant hill. Look for them any place you find hard-packed, sandy soil, like ballfields, playgrounds, trails and parking lots.

The wasps spend July and part of August hunting beetles in the Jewel Beetle family (Buprestidae) and bringing them back to the nest to feed their young. Wasp Watchers monitor the hunt by netting wasps that are carrying beetles, or collecting discarded beetles left on the ground.