

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 21, 2021

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ST. CHARLES COUNTY PARKS HOSTS POLLINATORS BIOBLITZ CHALLENGE THROUGH END OF SEPTEMBER



ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO – St. Charles County parks are home to a variety of wildlife, including animals, plants, insects and birds, and are the perfect scenic destinations to learn about and explore nature. Now through the end of September, the community is challenged to assist the St. Charles County Parks and Recreation Department and the National Recreation and Parks Association in creating a snapshot of the wildlife through the first-ever St. Charles County Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz. Who knows what you'll discover, and you may win big!

This fun challenge allows guests of all ages the opportunity to see how many pollinators or pollinator-friendly plants they

can find in St. Charles County for a chance to win a free park rental certificate. It's easy!

- Download the [iNaturalist](#) app on your smartphone and create a profile.
- Join our BioBlitz project in the app by searching "Parks for Pollinators 2021: St. Charles County Parks" <https://bit.ly/2021ParksForPollinators>.
- And then begin discovering! Pick an organism and take a clear, full frame photo with the app. Photos will upload automatically to our project page and your observations will be recorded.

Each entry counts as a find! If you have previously discovered photos of organisms that you found in St. Charles County this month, add them too! At the end of the month, the participant with the most BioBlitz finds over 50 wins! The winner of the gift certificate will be announced in October. Follow us at [facebook.com/StCharlesCountyParks/](https://www.facebook.com/StCharlesCountyParks/) to find out the winner of our BioBlitz project.

The challenge is perfect for individuals, organizations, scouts, preschools, and other school groups or clubs. Science teachers also are encouraged to offer students extra credit for participating as citizen scientist in this unique BioBlitz. For a list of St. Charles County Parks to visit and begin discovering nature, go to the Parks Department website at stccparks.org and click on "Find a Park" in the menu.

Those participants who want an in-depth look at nature and how the BioBlitz works are encouraged to join Shelby Miller, St. Charles County Parks Horticulture Supervisor, for a guided event at Veterans Tribute Park, 1031 Kisker Road in Weldon Spring, from 10-11 a.m., Friday, Sept. 24.

For more information or questions about the St. Charles County Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz, email shmillier@sccmo.org.

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NEWS RELEASE

About St. Charles County Parks and Recreation:

The St. Charles County Parks & Recreation Department was created in 1997 after voters approved a local use tax with the sole purpose of park land acquisition, development, operations, and maintenance. The department's mission is to preserve natural and historic features in areas throughout the county for the use of future generations. Today, the department operates 17 parks that total 3,947 acres of acquired park land. From historic homesteads to a youth skate park; from camping, hiking, biking, and fishing to weddings and educational classrooms, there's something for everyone in St. Charles County Parks.

For more information and specifics about each park, amenities, trails, and more, visit stccparks.org.