

## Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*)



### Description:

The western honeybee is the most common species of honeybee worldwide and is the only honeybee species found in New York. Body length is  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{5}{8}$  inch with yellow stripes on abdomen. Eyes on sides of head with ample space separating them. Eyes are not close to touching, as is seen in many flies that mimic the honeybee. Body is hairy, and individuals are often seen carrying bright yellow pollen balls on their hind legs.

## Bumblebee (Genus *Bombus*)



### Description:

Several bumblebee species are found in NYC, but they all have large, wide bodies that make them highly conspicuous. Bumblebees are **very hairy**, and can have black, yellow, or red coloration. They often have a large black spot where the wings meet the thorax. Slow moving. Although large in size, they are rarely aggressive, especially if not near their nest.

## Bee (other)



Genus Lasioglossum (sweat bee)



Genus Augochloropsis (Metallic sweat bee)



Genus Hylaeus (Masked bees)



Genus Xylocopa (Carpenter bees)

### Description:

Other than the well-known honeybees and bumblebees, there are many other groups of ecologically important, pollinating bees. These include sweat bees, carpenter bees, and leaf-cutter bees. These bees are diverse in their size and coloration, but their eyes will always be on the sides of their head, not close to touching at the top of their head. They will have relatively **long antennae**, usually at least as long as their head length. May have yellow or white coloration on abdomen, or be completely black. Some species have a metallic green appearance.

# Fly



Dusky winged hoverfly  
(*Ocyrtamus fuscipennis*)



Family Platypezidae  
(true flies)



Genus Condylostylus



Genus Toxomerus (hoverfly)



Genus Eristalis (hoverfly)

## Description:

Flies are highly diverse in shape and color, and several have evolved coloration that mimics bees. To identify a fly, look for **large eyes** that cover a large portion of the head with **little space between the eyes** at the top of the head. Flies also have much **shorter antennae** than bees. Flies also tend to hover in one spot for short periods.

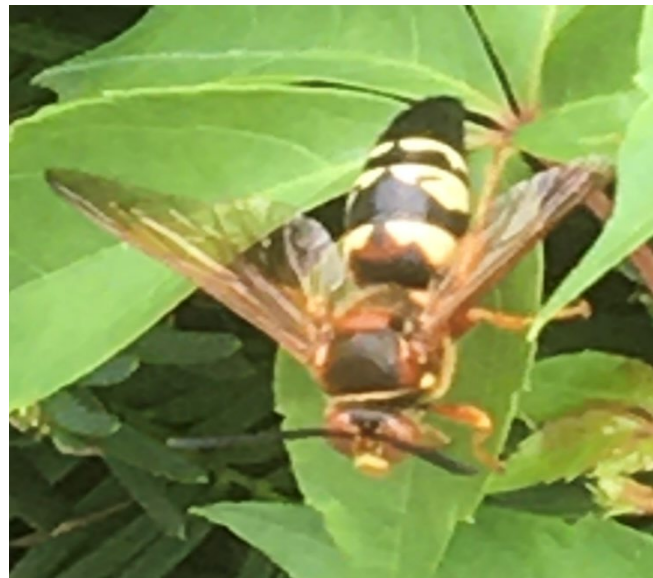
## Wasp



Thread-waisted wasp



Family Vespidae (paper wasps)



Genus Sphecius (Cicada killer wasps)

### Description:

Wasps often have yellow and black coloration similar to bees, but wasps are **hairless**. Wasps also usually have a “thin” or elongated body, with a noticeable **pinch between the thorax and the abdomen**, giving them an hourglass shaped body. Wasps are aggressive if their nest is threatened, but they will not attack while foraging unless provoked. Give them space and do not swat at them if they fly near you.

## Butterfly



Cabbage White (*Pieris rapae*)



Genus Epargyreus (Flasher butterfly)



Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*)

### Description:

Butterflies have large, conspicuous wings that are often colorful, but can also be plain white or brown. When at rest, butterflies hold their wings vertically along their back, making them touch. Butterflies also have long, thin antennae that end in a club or ball structure. Butterflies are generally diurnal, active in the day and resting at night.

## Moth



Luna moth (*Actias luna*)

### Description:

Moths are primarily nocturnal but you can occasionally find them foraging during the day. Moths hold their wings to the side at rest. Unlike butterflies, moth antennae have a branching, feathered appearance.