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National Moth Week Celebrated in all 50 States, July 18-26

For the third year in a row, [National Moth Week](#) will be celebrated in all 50 states and the District of Columbia with hundreds of public and private moth-watching and educational events registered for July 18-26. This year's public venues include Grand Canyon National Park, the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Batavia, Ohio.

Internationally, moth-ers in more than 30 countries have registered events, including Botswana, Yemen, Australia, New Zealand, Spain, Scotland and more.

National Moth Week (NMW) shines a much-needed spotlight on moths and their ecological importance as well as their incredible biodiversity. People of all ages and abilities are encouraged to become "citizen scientists" and contribute photos and data to [online databases](#) maintained by NMW's [partner organizations](#).

This year, National Moth Week is spotlighting the Sphingidae family, also known as hawk and sphinx moths and hornworms. The family includes the day-flying hummingbird moth, (genus *Hemaris*) a hawk moth also known as clearwings, which mimics hummingbirds and bumblebees. Also among the estimated 1,450 Sphingidae species are the Pandorus sphinx, Elephant hawk moth, White-lined sphinx, Gaudy sphinx and One-eyed sphinx.

National Moth Week was started in 2012 by the Friends of the East Brunswick (NJ) Environmental Commission, a nonprofit organization dedicated to environmental education and conservation. It is celebrated during the last full week and two weekends of July. Individuals and organizations are invited [to register](#) public and private mothing events for National Moth Week. Visit nationalmothweek.org for more information.