

Sandy Point State Park Park Quest- Bonus Quest!

Grab your camera or cell phone! The Sandy Point Bonus Quest is a pollinator and native plant photography competition. Come check out our bright and cheery black-eyed Susans and the important pollinators they support.



What: Pollinator and native plant photography competition

When: *Limited time only*

Tuesdays- Fridays, August 16- September 16, 9a.m.- 5.p.m.

Where: South Beach Plaza Pollinator Garden and beach dunes

How: Submit one photo per person using this [Google form](#)

Why: It's fun to appreciate nature!



DID YOU KNOW there's a Maryland state flower? Since 1918, it has been *Rudbeckia hirta*, the black-eyed Susan. It's a member of the *Asteraceae*, or sunflower family. Flowers measure 2-3 inches across, with yellow-orange petals encircling a dark brown spherical center. They are commonly found in fields and along roadsides, blooming between June and October, and are native to the United States east of the Rocky Mountains.

POLLINATORS TO LOOK FOR INCLUDE:

Monarch butterfly, eastern tiger swallowtail butterfly, painted lady butterfly, yellow skipper, bumble bees, moths, and more!

NATIVE PLANTS TO LOOK FOR INCLUDE:

Black-eyed Susans (six different types,) common milkweed, butterfly weed, 'Cheyenne Spirit' coneflower, 'Pica bella' coneflower, New York ironweed, Joe pye weed, swamp milkweed, swamp sunflower, oxeye sunflower, seaside goldenrod.

Please do not disturb the pollinators while taking photos! They're much more interested in the flowers than in you. You probably don't like to be bothered while you're eating your favorite meal...and neither do they.

Tips for taking photos:

- Pollinators move quickly. Choose a spot and wait for them to come nearby. Sudden movements can scare them away.
- Be aware of where the sun is positioned. Shadows don't usually make for good photos.
- Remember the background area of your photo. You probably don't want to showcase your big toe or that piece of litter in your masterpiece.
- Try taking photos from different angles. What does it look like while standing up, sitting down, laying on the ground?

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Here's the fine print.

Deadlines-

Entries must be submitted by **September 23, 2022**.

The Bonus Quest competition winner will be announced **October 7, 2022**.

Prize-

The winner will receive a complimentary Maryland black-eyed Susan ball cap and their photo will be featured in a future Park Quest newsletter.

Rules:

1. Your photo **must** be taken at Sandy Point State Park.
2. Photos **must** include a native plant and pollinator.
3. You may only submit **one** photo per person.
4. All photos **must** be original and your own work.
5. Park staff will select winner based on the composition, content, originality, and creativity.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Ready for more Park Quest fun? Follow the link to explore all the Quests!

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/parkquest/Pages/quest-by-region.aspx>

Check out Project Butterfly & Bumblebee to learn five ways YOU can help pollinators.

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/Project-Butterfly-Bee.aspx>

Take a deep dive into Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping with this guide by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/criticalarea/Documents/chesapeakekenatives.pdf>

