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## **The Land Conservancy and The Riverline Join Partners to Highlight Plight of Insects Worldwide at Insectageddon-Buffalo**

The Land Conservancy and The Riverline are teaming with the Buffalo Museum of Science, Eastern Monarch Butterfly Farm, Just Buffalo Literary Center, the Old First Ward Community Center, and local artists to present a special one-day event on insects. During the past 50 years, we've seen a precipitous decline in insect numbers worldwide—including iconic butterflies like the monarch. How do we stem this decline? [Insectageddon-Buffalo](#) will celebrate insects while raising awareness about the critical role they play on our planet. The event will also include a butterfly launch.

**Where:** Father Conway Park, 325 Ohio St., Buffalo, NY 14204

**When:** Saturday, September 25th, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm ET

This event is free and open to the public, but we request that you [register in advance at WNYLC.ORG](#). It will take place rain or shine except in the event of severe inclement weather

Insectageddon-Buffalo is part of a broader effort by the High Line Network: Insectageddon, a day-long festival featuring site-specific programming at partner sites around the world. Inspired by artist Cecilia Vicuña and culminating the High Line's month-long horticulture celebration, *Celebrating Insects on the High Line*, Insectageddon seeks to both reflect on and raise awareness of our interconnectedness with the insect world. The Riverline, the Land Conservancy's planned nature trail and greenway in Buffalo, is a member of the High Line Network. Learn more about the High Line Network's efforts [here](#).

As part of Buffalo's event, young poets from Just Buffalo will read their insect-inspired poetry; students from the Buffalo Museum of Science will present native bugs (and guests can meet cool bugs like hissing cockroaches); and local artists Chris Kameck, MJ Myers, and Jan Dylewski will help kids make insect-inspired art projects. There will also be an exhibition of insect art created by students at the Valley Community Association. Entomologist Dr. Wayne Gall will give a brief presentation on the importance of insects. Weather permitting, the event will culminate with a butterfly launch sponsored by Eastern Monarch Butterfly Farm.

“Insects play a hugely significant role on our planet,” said Nancy Smith, the Land Conservancy’s Executive Director. “They are a crucial part of the food web on which all species—including our own—rely. They are also amazing pollinators. Without them, life as we know it on Earth would cease. We’re thrilled to be part of the High Line Network’s efforts to raise awareness here in Buffalo about this fascinating and often adorable part of mother nature.”

Activities include:

- Artmaking for kids of all ages with local artists Chris Kameck, MJ Myers, and Jan Dylewski
- Youth poetry reading presented by Just Buffalo
- Butterfly release presented by Eastern Monarch Butterfly Farm
- Live insect demonstrations presented by the Buffalo Museum of Science
- Brief lecture by Dr. Wayne Gall

Door prizes:

- The first five people to arrive on September 25<sup>th</sup> will take home a native plant thanks to Dave O’Donnell at Eastern Monarch Butterfly Farm.
- The first twelve to register online will receive a rare treat at Insectageddon: chocolate-covered crickets to eat. They must also attend in person to collect their treats.

All are welcome to attend, but we require you to [register in advance at WNYLC.ORG](https://www.wnylc.org). You may also register the day of the event. During the event, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we encourage you to follow CDC masking and social distancing guidelines.

**The Western New York Land Conservancy** is a regional, not-for-profit land trust that permanently protects land with significant conservation value in Western New York for current and future generations. The Land Conservancy envisions a future in which open spaces, working lands, wildlife habitat, and scenic beauty are cherished and protected as part of the landscape and character of Western New York. The Land Conservancy is accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission and is one of 1000+ land trusts nationwide, including 87 in New York State. Land trusts have protected over 56 million acres of land. To learn more about the Land Conservancy, visit [wnylc.org](https://wnylc.org).