

## Photo essay: From landfill to nature renaissance

by the Northline Nature Stewards

The thrill of spotting wildlife takes on new meaning when you find it at a site that you're stewarding. Two regular Northline stewards, Paul Reeves and Conrad Barrington, are also talented nature photographers who have been capturing the magic at "our" site. Their images offer a tantalising glimpse into some of the flora and fauna at Northline this fall, and underscore the site's gradual transformation from former landfill to wildlife haven.



This juvenile Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) was one of a flock that was attracted to the berries of a large Common Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) tree at the site on October 3. Any berries ingested will, unfortunately, help spread the invasive buckthorn far and wide via bird droppings. A wasp augmented the berry feast. Photo: [Paul Reeves](#)



New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*) at one of the access points to Northline. This nectar-rich fall bloomer is the larval host plant for the Pearl Crescent butterfly.  
Photo: Conrad Barrington



A Small Carpenter Bee (genus *Ceratina*) on Panicled Aster (*Symphyotrichum lanceolatum*).  
Photo: Conrad Barrington





A Boxelder Bug (*Leptocoris trivittatus*) scurries across the ground. In the fall, these bugs come down from the trees they feed on to search for a suitable overwintering site. Photo: Conrad Barrington

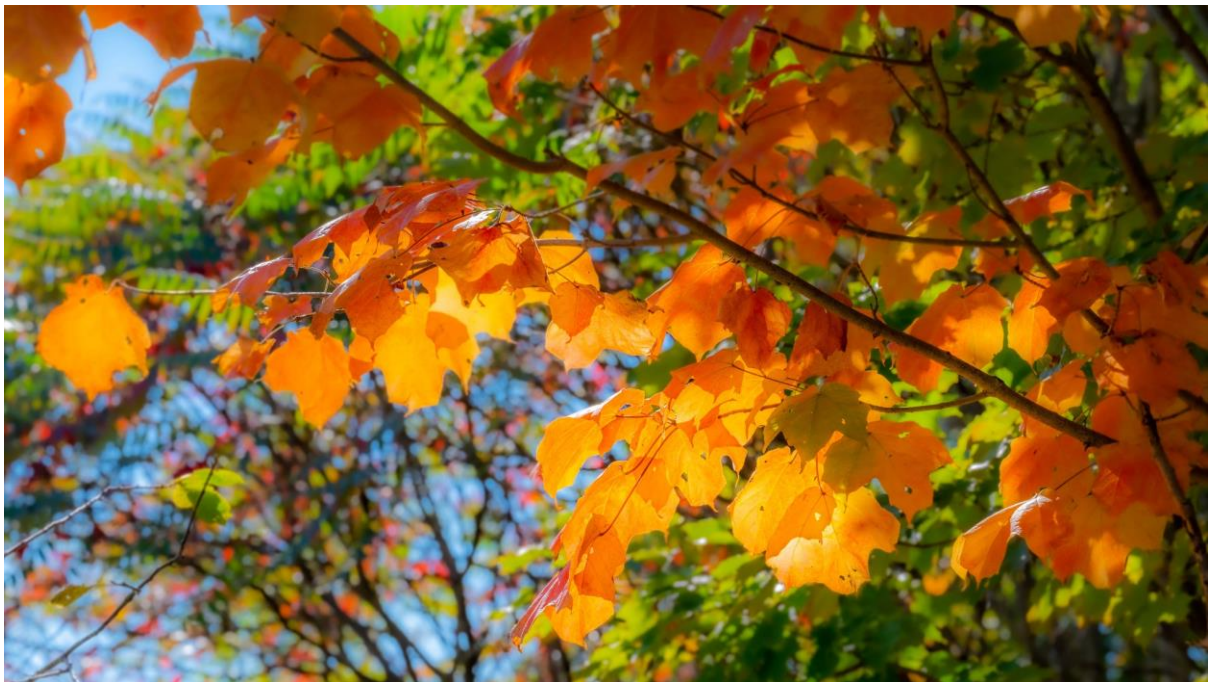


The spherical gall of the freeze-tolerant Goldenrod Gall Fly (*Eurosta solidaginis*) larva, which remains encapsulated until the spring. Photo: Conrad Barrington





One of the graceful White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) that has kept us on our toes this season, as we work towards protecting native trees that were planted on the site in the spring. Despite fencing, deer have managed to nibble a few of the trees we are tending to, but all the trees have so far survived. Photo: Paul Reeves



Majestic fall colours of the Black Maple (*Acer nigrum*) tree. Photo: Conrad Barrington



A jewel-like Striped Sweat Bee (genus *Agapostemon*), an ace pollinator of crops and native flora, dazzles in the fall sunshine. Photo: Conrad Barrington





A female Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus*) foraging for food. Although Hairy Woodpeckers are insectivores, they have been known to drink sap from holes that sapsuckers drill into the bark of trees. - Photo: Paul Reeves