



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TASTE A BUG, HUNT A BUG, WATCH A GIANT LIVE BUG AT THE 2ND ANNUAL BUG FEST

Saturday and Sunday, August 15 and 16

PHILADELPHIA—The Academy of Natural Sciences will be crawling with insects—some bigger than a hand—Saturday and Sunday, August 15 and 16, for the second annual Bug Fest.

There will be plenty to please visitors of all ages, including dozens of live insects, bugs to eat, insect robots, roach races, entomology talks and displays, and a buggy field trip. It's all **free** with regular museum admission.

Founded in 1812, the Academy is a world leader in the study of insects and also is the headquarters of the American Entomological Society, this year celebrating its 150th anniversary. AES and the Academy will mark that milestone by leading groups of visitors on timed "insect research expeditions" to the lovely gardens of Logan Square, across the street from the museum, where urban wildlife abounds. "There's no telling what kind of stuff we'll find. That's part of the fun," said Academy entomologist Greg Cowper, who will be one of the field trip leaders.

Back in the museum, visitors will see more than 50 species of live insects including battle-ready stag beetles, huge rhino beetles, toe biters (giant water bugs), camel crickets, and 8-inch-long stick insects. Researchers from the University of Pennsylvania will demonstrate advances in robotics with insectlike robots, and visitors interested in starting their own collection can learn how to collect and pin insects.

For those with a sense of adventure, Cajun chef Zach Lemann will cook up samples of delicious creepy crawly cuisine to sample. Cheer on a favorite bug athlete at Roach Race 500, and buzz over to participate in master bee keeper Cliff Sunflower's show of music, dance and storytelling. There also will be lectures by world-renowned scientists on the importance of bugs to our planet.

For more details, visit www.ansp.org/bugfest.

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The Academy of Natural Sciences, founded in 1812, is the oldest natural science research institution and museum in the Americas and a world leader in biodiversity and environmental research. The mission of the Academy is the encouragement and cultivation of the sciences.

HOURS: Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Saturday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. ADMISSION: \$12 adults; \$10 children 3-12, seniors, college students, military personnel; free for members and children under 3. \$2 fee for "Butterflies!"

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES · 1900 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PARKWAY · PHILADELPHIA · PA 19103