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Heat of the Moment: How Climate Change Impacts Insects in Our Garden

Take Home Messages

- Climate change is happening & accelerating.
- Increased and variable temperature, precipitation, drought represents a danger to (specialist) insects and their ecosystems.
- Insects are changing behavior, phenology, geographic range.
- Specialist insects and insects at higher trophic levels most at risk.
- Increased prevalence of insect outbreaks
- Urban and suburban areas have a key role to play in adaptation to climate change / mitigation of climate change impacts.
    - Extensive use of green technologies
    - Depaving urban areas, where it makes sense
    - Increased efforts to plant native plants ~ help extend range for specialist insects?
- [Research shows that small habitat fragments can maintain biodiversity ~ if those fragments are connected.]

Links and References Used in Talk

- IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6): https://www.ipcc.ch/assessment-report/ar6/
    - Working Group 1: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-i/
    - Working Group 2: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-ii/
    - Working Group 3: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-3/
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