

# A Bug's Life

# Mud daubers

Black and yellow mud wasp - *Sceliphron caementarium*  
Blue mud wasp - *Chalybion californicum*

## Fun facts

- Active April to October
- Prey on spiders
- Larvae develop in mud nests associated with human habitations
- Use soil from puddles/pool edges
- Blue mud wasp may refurbish nests of black and yellow mud wasp

## Identification

Nest: Clumps of mud/nests on sides of buildings, some with exit holes

Black and yellow mud wasp: Black body with yellow markings, long thin waist (pedicel)

Blue mud wasp: Large, blue-black body with iridescent blue wings

## Management

- None recommended, hunt spiders
- Adults feed on plant nectar
- Not a sting risk, does not defend the nest and is not aggressive
- Scrape down mud nests if accessible



Black and yellow mud wasp



Blue mud wasp

Photos: J. Green