A Bug's Life

Fun facts
- Diverse family of predatory flies
- Some species are bee or wasp mimics
- Often still, perched on vegetation
- Ambush prey from a wide variety of insect orders
- Larvae develop in soil or decaying wood
- Found in woodlands, gardens, open areas in July to September

Identification
- Large eyes and short antennae
- Elongated, tapered abdomen
- Body can be bare to very hairy
- Beak-like mouthpart

Hanging thieves (common species)
- Stripes on thorax, very long legs, green iridescent eyes, after catching prey, will suspend itself above ground with just front legs

Management
- None recommended
- Generalist predator that may feed on pollinators and other beneficial insects

Caution
- Do not handle, large robber flies may inflict painful bite

Robber flies
Family: Asilidae

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