

A Bug's Life

Steel blue cricket hunter

Chlorion aerarium

Fun facts

- Active from June to September
- Prey on field crickets
- Found in open areas near loose soils
- Associated with cicada killers
- Larvae develop in underground burrows, feeding on paralyzed prey

Identification

Wasp: Large, quick, dazzling, metallic blue wasp often seen on the ground hunting and twitching

Similar appearance to the blue mud dauber that preys on spiders and build mud nests

Management

- None recommended
- Adults feed on plant nectar
- Not a sting risk, does not defend the nest and is not aggressive
- Beneficial because of free pest control services



Transporting cricket to burrow



Photos: J. Green