

**ACFF Spring Fundraiser Features Pollinator Film & Discussion**  
***Endangered Rusty-patched Bumble Bee Film, Pollination Experts,***  
***Food, Drink, & Music at Wild Goose Farm on April 29th***

April 5, 2017. Shepherdstown, WV. -- The American Conservation Film Festival 3<sup>rd</sup> annual spring fundraiser will shed light on threats facing a number of America's pollinator species and how we can help them at a party including festive food, drink, and music at Shepherdstown's beautiful Wild Goose Farm on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

In light of the Rusty-patched bumble bee (right) being placed on the Endangered Species List in early 2017, ACFF will screen the film *Ghost in the Making: Rusty-patched Bumble Bee* (<http://www.rustypatched.com/>) followed by a discussion with three pollination experts addressing the endangered species listing, native plants and healthy habitat, and home landscape design that supports pollinators. Leda Huta, director of the Endangered Species Coalition, Dr. Larry Stritch, the US Forest Service's National Botanist for 18 years, and horticulturist James Dillon of Native Havens LLC will participate in a panel discussion and answer questions from the audience.



The historic and bucolic Wild Goose Farm, located just outside of Shepherdstown, will serve as the venue for this year's party where guests will have a chance to wander the grounds, watch a short film, and enjoy a seasonal buffet dinner, drinks, and upbeat music from the Charlie Bare Quartet at the farm's party barn. A brief live auction will offer attendees the chance to bid on interesting experiential items as well as buy "shares" supporting various film screenings and education initiatives of the Festival. More information on the event and tickets are available at <http://conservationfilm.org/attend/spring-2017-fundraiser-protecting-pollinators/>

The American Conservation Film Festival is in its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of presenting the best conservation films from a diverse group of filmmakers from around the world, hosting a filmmakers' workshop, and offering special screening events around the region throughout the year. This year's festival runs October 13-15 in Shepherdstown, with an encore weekend of award-winning films on October 20-22. ACFF received over 200 film submissions from 38 countries this year and is now in the process of film and programming selection.

This annual party is the primary fundraising event for the American Conservation Film Festival and has quickly gained a reputation as one of the more informative, entertaining, and interactive soirees of the season and region. Seats are limited and advance ticket purchase is highly encouraged.

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