



# THE CLEANUP MISTAKE

The obsession with "clean" kills winter.



### What's under the leaves:

- Luna moth cocoons wrapped in individual leaves
- Queen bumblebees dormant just under the surface
- Salamanders and newts in winter torpor
- Beneficial beetles that control spring pests
- Firefly larvae spending 2-year development
- Box turtle eggs waiting for spring

### When you rake it all away:

- Expose wildlife to freezing temperatures
- Destroy overwintering insects
- Remove spring's pest control team
- Rip off thermal blanket in the middle of winter

This winter, let the 'mess' protect life.  
True beauty is not in being clean, it is in being warm.