

POLLINATOR PROTECTION ACTION LIST *Protect the life that sustains us*

Declining pollinator populations like honey bees, native bees, beetles and others are crucial to our food supply and ecosystem. Now is the time to take action. It's the right thing to do.



Replace Turf

Transform under-utilized areas of turf to gardens, meadows, prairie and bee or low mow lawns. New construction and plans include habitat instead of turf.

Ecologically Sound Practices Replace Pesticides

Cease systemic insecticides especially neonicotinoids and fipronil.

Develop Integrated Pest Management Program that focuses on ecologically sound practices.

Conduct an annual inventory of current pesticides and practices; update with least toxic options.

Use non-toxic alternatives to pesticides like controlled burns and organic methods. (see alternative pesticide list)

Read pesticide labels thoroughly, keep staff updated on pesticide certification

Evaluate, Monitor and Research

Conduct research on pollinator populations and pollinator best practices.

Evaluate current practices, keep records and monitor results.

Develop and pay attention to thresholds, tolerate some insect damage and unwanted plants.

Educate and Innovate

Get community involved. Provide conservation education and citizen science programs.

Take time to vision new and innovative practices, programs and actions.

Raise awareness by promoting pollinator friendly practices in social media, website and printed materials.

Bee a good example - Share your knowledge with colleagues and the public.

Learn plant identification to better discern habitats such as native thistle.

Send staff to technical training to update them on ecologically sound practices.

Ecology: Restore, Plant and Build

Use regenerative practices like beneficial insects, beetle banks, buffer strips, hedgerows, and wind breaks.

Leave plantings intact until spring to allow overwintering insects hibernation nesting areas.

Choose untreated native plants that bloom in spring, summer and fall for abundant pollinator resources.

Choose untreated native plants that maximize water filtration and soil stabilization, and will attract pollinators and predators that prey on garden pests.

Commit to annual goals for habitat restoration and installation.

Steward existing woodlands to promote woodland groundcover which provide early nectar resources.

Create pesticide free zones and corridors in right of ways, roadsides, in parks and public lands.

Carefully plan mowing. Implement alternate roadside mows to avoid harming animals and habitat.

Change Perceptions

Tolerate bee "weeds" such as dandelions, creeping charlie, and native thistle.

Adopt not-so-tidy areas for habitat and nesting areas; mulch or wood piles, hedgerows and beetle banks.

Change perceptions of maintenance...accept some plant damage and imperfections.

Don't spray swarm. Save bees by calling the statewide swarm catchers 651-436-7915.

Advocate and Legislate

Insist on untreated plants and seeds from your plant sources. Be diligent in asking your grower.

Purchase pesticide free and non-GMO products.

Recommend changes to policy and practices for pollinator protection.

Implement a pollinator friendly resolution in your community or county.

Meet with legislators to encourage pollinator friendly legislation and restrict pesticides.

Encourage businesses, churches, schools and groups to implement pollinator friendly resolutions.

Form an environmental commission or pollinator consortium.