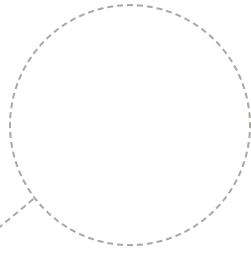


Help Us Build a Pollinator Pathway!

Bring bees, birds and butterflies
to your corner of the Norwalk River Valley. →
Find out how



Norwalk River Watershed Association, Inc.



Pollinators & why we need them

Locally, our main pollinators are hummingbirds and insects, including bees, beetles, flies, butterflies and moths. They move pollen from one flower to another as they collect nectar.

Without pollination, a plant can't reproduce. While wind can transfer pollen too, these pollinators do the job for approximately 75% of our flowering plants and crops. Without them, most plants would quickly disappear.

Unfortunately, pollinator numbers are declining due to habitat loss, disease, and pesticide use. The good news is each of us can roll out a welcome mat for pollinators and help them thrive! Here's how:

Plant a pollinator garden or meadow on your property

- Provide native flowering plants which have evolved to support the needs of native pollinators
- Make sure any non-native plants you choose are not invasive
- Clump similar plants together to help pollinators find the food source they need
- Choose plants that flower at different times to provide a continuous supply of nectar
- Select various colors, sizes and shapes to attract a variety of pollinators

Help pollinators reproduce

- Provide host plants—such as certain trees, herbs, milkweeds—that offer food and shelter for insect larvae.
- Leave bare patches in your yard for ground nesting bees and areas of brush, dead wood, and leaf litter for insect pupae to overwinter in
- Provide safe access to clean water

Minimize or eliminate pesticide use

- Be prepared to tolerate some pest activity – it's only natural!
- Let the beneficial insects you've attracted help you fight garden pests
- Remove pests by hand using garden gloves
- If you must use a pesticide, choose one that's least toxic to non-pest species and apply in the evening when pollinators are least active

Learn more about what you can do at norwalkriver.org



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