



-Rusty-Patched bumble bee

Pollinators and flowering plants depend on each other. Wisconsin pollinators include bees, butterflies, beetles, flies, moths, and hummingbirds. Bees and other pollinators transport pollen from flower to flower as they forage, allowing for plant fertilization and fruit and seed production. Approximately 75% of the world's major food crops require or benefit from pollination by animals. Flowering plants provide nectar and pollen for a bee's diet. Pollen is an essential protein source for developing bee larvae, and nectar provides carbohydrates.

For more information on pollinators, check out these resources:

- Dane County Pollinator Protection Plan—<https://www.countyofdane.com/commissions/environmentalcouncil/new.aspx>
- North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC)—<http://www.napcc.org>
- The Wisconsin Pollinator Protection Plan—<https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/PPPARMPub257.pdf>
- USDA NRCS Pollinator Conservation and Enhancement documents—<http://plants.usda.gov/pollinators/nrcsdocuments.html>
- Xerces Society—<http://www.xerces.org>



-Green Sweat Bee

Many people are concerned about the health and survival of bees, including honey bees, native bumble bees and hundreds of lesser-known kinds of native wild bees that call Wisconsin home. Bees are threatened by factors such as pests, pathogens, pesticides, climate change and a lack of nesting habitat and forage plants. There are simple actions you can take around your home and community to help.



-Monarch Butterfly

See Here for More Details

Protecting Our Dane County Pollinators

Pollinators are animals that visit flowering plants, collect nectar, and carry pollen from flower to flower, thus aiding plant reproduction.



www.countydane.com/commissions/environmentalcouncil/



You Can Support Our Native Pollinators!

- Plant the seeds in this packet in a sunny, open space. **Seeds include:** Bergamot, Stiff Goldenrod, New England Aster, and possibly other prairie species.
- Reduce pesticide use especially near flowering plants or in areas where pollinators may be nesting.
- Provide nesting habitat for bees such as bare patches of semi-loose soils, burrows, and native bunch grasses like little bluestem. Allow areas with leaf litter and hollow twigs where solitary bees like to nest.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and other flowering plants that bloom throughout the growing season from early spring until late fall, especially native species.
- Choose a variety of flower colors. Bees are most attracted to blue, white, yellow and purple flowers. Beetles like spicy fragrant flowers. Butterflies like bright colored flowers with flat petals.

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