

GREEN Growing: The Birds, the Bees and, of course, The Butterflies

Ready to help pollinators by taking some simple steps in your yard, deck or balcony?



Photo credit: Xerces Society

Join the movement to save our pollinators. Many of your neighbors in the River Towns and beyond have made their properties pollinator friendly. It is easy to do, will save you money, and your small steps will make a big difference. Here are some ideas:

Who are the pollinators?

Bees (native bees and honeybees), butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, beetles, flies, wasps and a few other insects work hard to ensure that we can enjoy fruits and vegetables, and they sustain the plants that make the earth such a beautiful place.

Why are they in trouble?

Pollinator populations are falling at a frightening rate. There are many reasons, but key ones we have control over are:

- Habitat loss that reduces their food source and their ability to reproduce
- Use of pesticides
- Gardening and landscaping practices.

Can we do anything to help them?

Yes! This is one area where homeowners can make a big difference through just one or two small steps. For example, eliminate the use of pesticides and plant native flowering plants that are a source of food and serve as host plants for their young.

Here are some ways you can help:

Put your yard on the national pollinator pathway. To learn more click [here](#)



Support and attract pollinators by making some small changes in your yard. To learn more click [here](#)



Plant a simple native garden for pollinators. To view and print a free and simple guide that does all the work for you click [here](#) . To create a small mailbox garden for pollinators double click on the paperclip below (It may take a little while to load).



Have fun and know that you are making a big difference through small actions!