



BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION AGENDA

CITY OF NOVI

June 12, 2024 | 6:00 PM

Mayor's Conference Room

Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road

(248) 347-0460

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL - Jan Lach, Christen Pietraz, Laura Williams, Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

[June](#) 12, 2024 Agenda

MINUTES

[February](#) 21, 2024 Minutes

OLD BUSINESS

[Pollinator](#) Library Display – July/August 2024

[Website](#) Pollinator information

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE: People with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk (248) 347-0456 at least two working days in advance of the meeting. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.



CITY OF NOVI
Beautification Commission
Wednesday, June 12, 2024 6:00 pm
Mayor's Conference Room
Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road

Roll Call – Jan Lach, Christen Pietraz, Laura Williams, Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes – May 8, 2024

Chair – Jan Lach

Secretary – Torry Yu

City Liaison – Kate Oppermann

Old Business

- Pollinator Library Display – July/August 2024
- Website Pollinator information

Public Comment

Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings – 7/10, 8/14, 9/11, 10/9, 11/13, 12/11

Beautification Commission Minutes
Wednesday, May 8, 2024
6:00 pm
Novi Civic Center
45175 10 Mile Rd.
Mayor's Conference Room

Call to Order: 6:02 pm

Roll Call: Jan Lach, Christen Pietraz, Laura Williams, Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

Present: Jan Lach, Laura Williams, Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

Absent Excused: Christen Pietraz

Approval of Agenda: Moved: Lach, Seconded: Yu, Approved 4:0

Approval of Minutes – February 21, 2024: Moved: Williams, Seconded: Lach, Approved 4:0

New Business:

The discussion portion of the meeting was opened by welcoming the new Commissioner Mary Angela Winter.

Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz

Staff Liaison Oppermann presented the Commission with the opportunity to partner with the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department for a "Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz". A BioBlitz is an event where community members work with park staff to create a snapshot of the variety of wildlife that can be found in local parks. To participate, community members will use an app to take pictures of plants, insects, and animals to see what wildlife is present in the park on the day of the event and provide the park system with more information about local pollinators, which are essential to our ecosystem. The event is currently tentatively planned for September 2024 and the Commission was interested in taking part in the program as part of their focus on pollinators.

Budget Update

Staff Liaison Oppermann updated the Commissioners on the current budget and requested that the group determine how they would like to spend the remaining amount for the current Fiscal Year. The commissions decided to determine the cost of any Materials that might be needed for the upcoming July/August pollinator display at the Library and to use any remainder for new plants/seeds for Fuerst Park Monarch Waystation/pollinator garden.

Election of Commission Chairperson and Secretary

With the departure of former Chairperson Cindy Lang from the Commission the Chair was left vacant. Staff Liaison Oppermann requested that the commissioners either volunteer or nominate another commissioner to the role.

Laura Williams made a motion to nominate Jan Lach for the role of Chairperson and was seconded

by Torry Yu. Following Commissioner Lach's acceptance of the nomination the motion was approved 4:0.

As Commissioner Lach had been Commission Secretary prior to her nomination it was required that a new Secretary also be selected.

Laura Williams made a motion to nominate Torry Yu for the role of Commission Secretary and was seconded by Mary Angela Winter. Following Commissioner Yu's acceptance of the nomination the motion was approved 4:0.

Old Business

Bee City USA

Ms. Oppermann reiterated to the Commission that the Resolution for the City of Novi to become a Bee City Affiliate was presented and approved by City Council as part of their 3/18/24 agenda. She then noted which obligations had already been completed and the timeline for the other requirements. Most items needed to be completed by March 2025 and the remaining were annual requirements such as having a pollinator awareness event at least once yearly.

The group was pleased with the current progress and also requested to reconnect with Fire Captain Theisen regarding honeybees and hives. It is their hope that at least one hive be installed in 2025.

Pollinator Library Display – July/August 2024

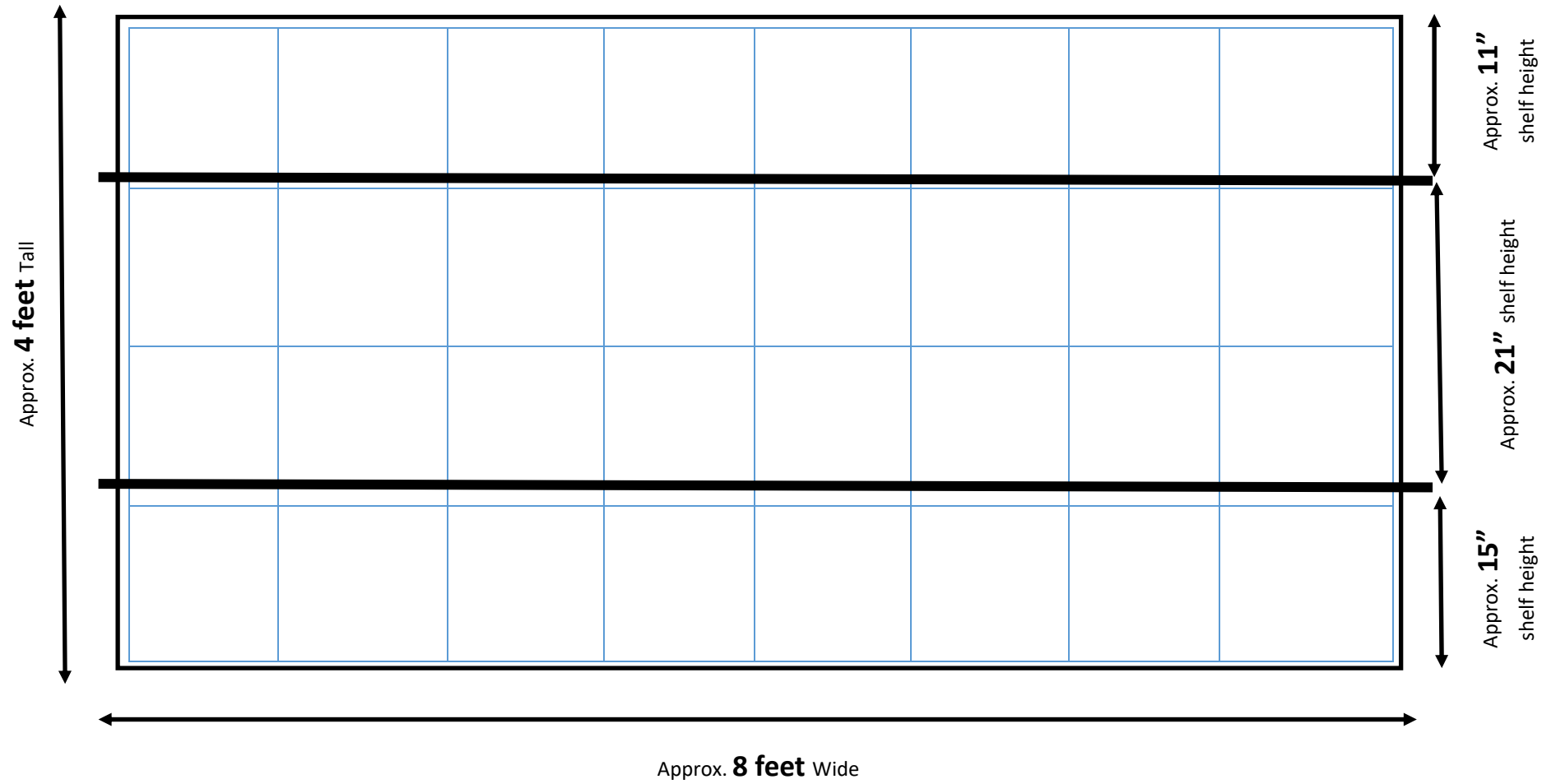
The Commissioners were provided with information regarding the display case - it is located on the 2nd floor of the library, near the adult collections and is roughly 8' wide x 4' tall. It is anticipated that the display will be installed the weekend prior to the 4th of July. The commission discussed some general ideas for the display and chairperson Lach instructed the group to think on the topic over the next month and bring their ideas to the June meeting so they could determine a final plan.

Public Comment: Ms. Syeda Faiz was present as a community member interested in joining the Beautification Commission. She requested clarification on the money that the City offers Homeowners Associations as part of the Neighborhood Entryway Enhancement Matching Grant Program.

Adjournment: 6:47 pm

Upcoming Meetings: 6/12, 7/10, 8/14, 9/11, 10/9, 11/13, 12/11





8x11 (landscape)
 Display Placard
 Actual location right center
 to Case

2nd Floor Library Display Case

Library Pollinator Display Ideas

	Pollinators	Plants	Bees
Shelf 3	Library books in circulation	Library books in circulation	Library books in circulation
Shelf 2	Types of pollinators	Good and bad plants	General information sheets on stands
Shelf 1	Pollinators common to Michigan	Plants native to Michigan Photos & QR codes for Waystation	Bee City USA information

Background is made up of bee, butterfly & moth photos

Background is a photo of a field of wildflowers

Background is a Photo of bees

The backgrounds would be printed poster board (they can be printed at OfficeMax). I think it would also look nice to have solid-colored posters with the creatures & plants as Cricut cutouts.

The information on shelves 1 & 2 would be printouts on easels. On shelf 3 the books would be photos of the book covers on easels.

Common Bees of Michigan

Honey bees

Apis mellifera - Our primary managed pollinator. Honey bees are native to Europe.



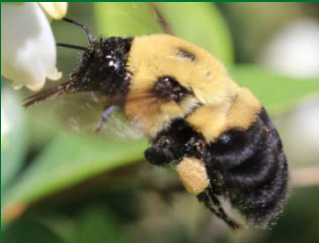
Green sweat bees

Four types of green bees occur in Michigan in spring and summer. Some nest in logs others in the ground.



Bumble bees

Bombus spp. - Easily recognized, bumble bees are important native pollinators.



Dark sweat bees

Lasioglossum spp. and *Halictus* spp. - Easily missed, but these are both abundant and diverse native bees.



Long-horned bees

Melissodes spp. - These bees, named for the long antennae of males, mostly visit composite flowers in summer.



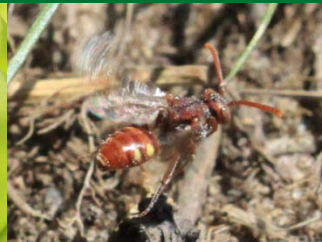
Masked bees

Hylaeus spp. - Small, wasp-like bees that nest in small stems. Females carry pollen back to the nest internally.



Cuckoo bees

Nomada spp. - Wasp-like bees commonly seen flying near the ground looking for miner bee nests.



Cellophane bees

Colletes spp. - Line cells of their nests with a cellophane-like material. They nest in the ground.

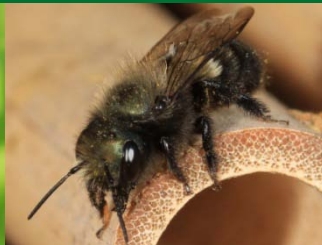


For information on bee friendly native plants and how to support pollinators visit:
www.nativeplants.msu.edu
www.xerces.org

Common Bees of Michigan

Mason bees

Osmia spp., *Hoplitis* spp. and *Heriades* spp. - Managed *Osmia* pollinate orchard crops. Occur mostly in Spring.



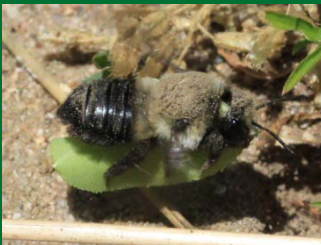
Cuckoo sweat bees

Sphecodes spp. - Invade the nests of other sweat bees. They are easily recognized by their black and red color.



Leaf-cutter bees

Megachile spp. - Cut or masticated leaf pieces in the construction of their nests. Nest in cavities or in ground.



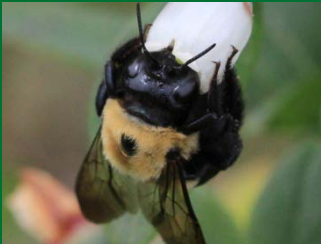
Wool-carder bees

Anthidium spp. - Most common species are accidental introductions from Europe. They line nests with plant hairs.



Carpenter bees

Xylocopa virginica - Common in urban areas. Excavate nests in dead wood. Males have yellow faces.



Miner bees

Andrena spp. - Diverse and abundant, mostly in Spring. Ground-nesting and often specialize on particular flowers.



Dwarf carpenter bees

Ceratina spp. - Very abundant throughout the summer. They nest in old stems and visit a variety of flowers.



Squash bees

Peponapis pruinosa - Solitary ground-nester, only visits the flowers of squash and related crop species.



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Pollinator Friendly Practices



Use native plants since they are adapted to the local climate and soils, and local pollinators are adapted to them.

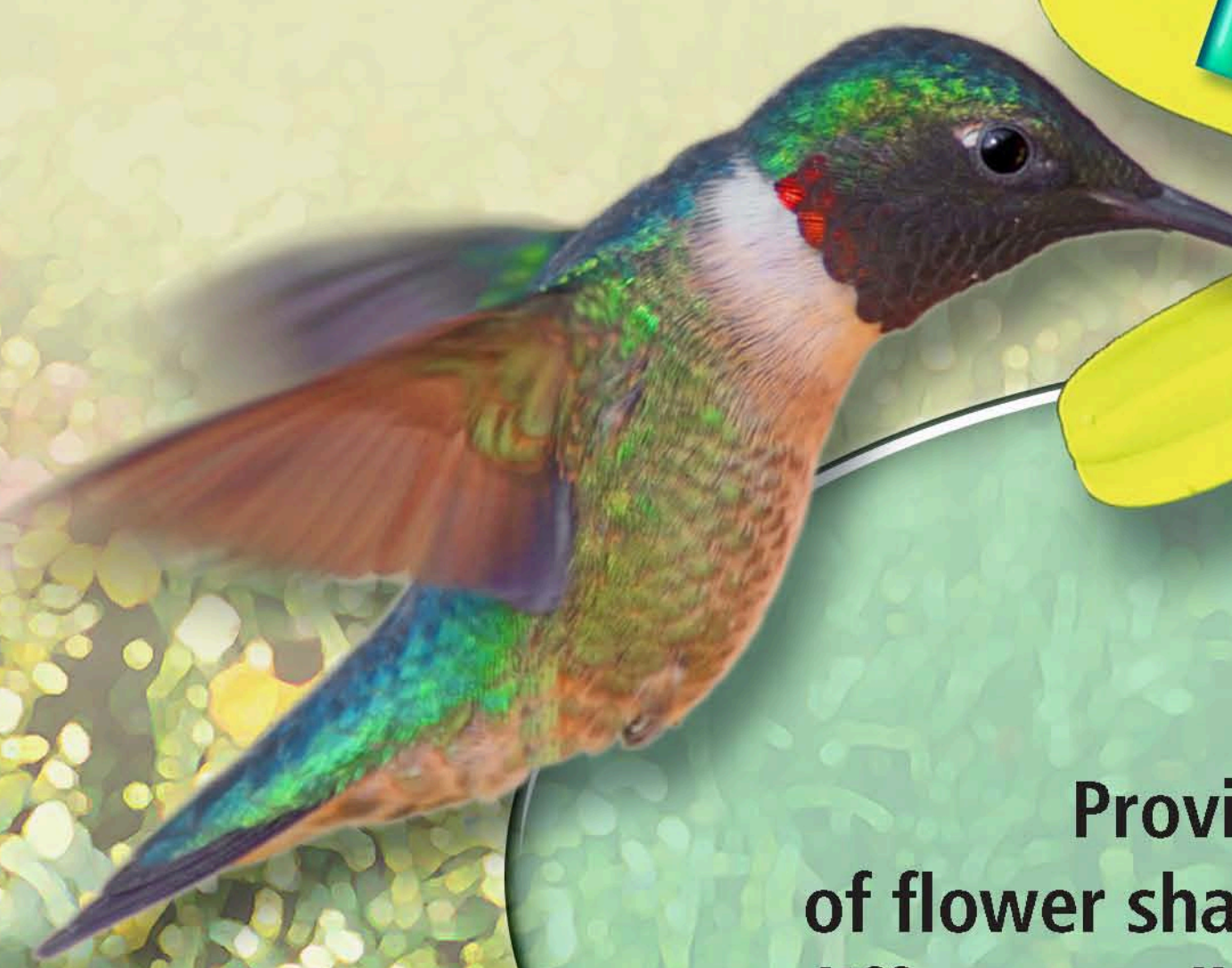


Plant a variety of flowers to bloom continually from early spring to early fall.



Provide bare ground or a shallow bird bath filled with soil, sprinkled with sea salt and kept moist, to create a source of water and minerals for pollinators.

Include plants for caterpillars. They are surprisingly fussy eaters and require particular "host" plants. Caterpillars eat the foliage of their host plants, but the average gardener won't notice the damage until at least 10% of the leaves are affected.



Provide a variety of flower shapes and colors since different pollinators are attracted to different types of flowers.



Build a bee condo or leave dead trees or limbs to create nesting habitat for bees.



Help pollinators find the plants they need by planting them in clumps rather than singly. Clustering plants also shortens the distances that pollinators need to travel.



Avoid using pesticides if at all possible. If you want butterflies, you need caterpillars (and the nibbled leaves that go with them)!



Avoid modern hybrids, especially those with "doubled" flowers, since pollen, nectar, and scent can be lost in the cultivation process.



Bumble Bees of the Eastern United States

Twenty-one species of bumble bees (*Bombus* spp.) occur east of the 100th meridian. Within the genus *Bombus*, individuals vary dramatically within a species in color pattern, extent and intensity of colors on the head, thorax and abdomen. A representative color pattern is shown for each species. Facial shape is not pictured, but is a key component in accurate identification. Please refer to the depictions of color pattern and face shape in our published field guide, *Bumble Bees of the Eastern United States*, available at www.pollinator.org/books/htm and at www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/documents/BumbleBeeGuide.

To complicate matters further, bumble bees often mimic one another in color patterns, so they can be difficult to distinguish from one another especially on the wing as they go from flower to flower in

your garden. The sizes of the bees on the poster are relative. The size of adult bumble bees is entirely dependent upon the amount of food they are as larvae. Thus, even within the same colony of a species you can find tiny to very large workers, some of them approaching the size of the colony's queen.

There are 47 bumble bee species in the entire United States and they are among our most important pollinators. These charismatic bees visit flowers with long corollas and abundant nectar. Bumble bees are important as commercial pollinators of tomatoes, along with certain wildflowers, which they buzz pollinate, turning themselves into living tuning forks to harvest their pollen grains. At least 6 species in the U.S. are in trouble. Visit www.pollinator.org for more information and to see how you can help.





FEED THE BEES

GARDENING FOR POLLINATORS



Honey bees will forage on hundreds of different flowering plants within a 3 mile radius from their hive. They especially love purple, blue, white, yellow, mauve, & violet colored flowers.

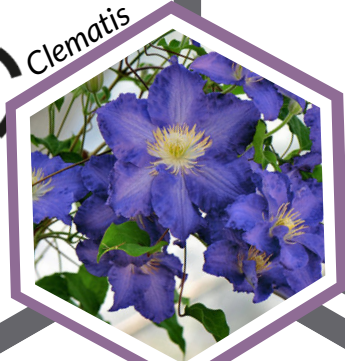
The best gardens for bees (& other pollinators) have flowering plants throughout the growing season. Here are some favorite perennial & annual flowering plants of bees & other pollinators.



PERENNIALS



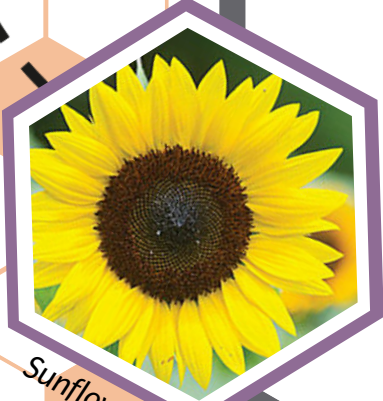
Bellflower



Clematis

Clematis
Coral bells
Cornflower
Foxglove
Globe thistle
Hyssop
Lavender

Hyssop



Sunflower

Aster
Bee balm
Bellflower
Betony
Black-eyed Susan
Blanket flower
Blazing star
Butterfly bush



Lupine

Russian sage
Salvia
Sea holly
Sedum
Sunflower
Swamp milkweed
Yarrow



Black-eyed Susan



Blazing star

Lemon balm
Lupine
Pentas
Peony

Pincushion flower
Purple coneflower
Red poppy



Purple coneflower



Sea holly



FEED THE BEES

GARDENING FOR POLLINATORS

ANNUALS

Ageratum



Ageratum

Aster

Blue salvia

Borage

Calendula

Borage



Calendula



Heliotrope



Cornflower

Cosmos

Dahlia

Heliotrope

Lantana

Mignonette

Cosmos



Pentas

Pineapple sage

Popcorn plant

Sage

Snapdragon

Spider flower

Sunflower

Sweet William

Sweet alyssum

Tithonia

Vervain

Zinnia

Spider flower



Popcorn plant



Tithonia



Zinnia



Pollinators & Native Plants



Why “Bee” concerned about Pollinators?

Native Plants and Pollinators go hand-in-hand. Michigan butterflies, moths, bees, hummingbirds and other insects rely upon native nectar and host plants.

- Pollinators are needed for the reproduction of 90% of all flowering plants
- Pollinators are needed for the production of 1/3 of human food crops
- Non-native plants, in general, support far fewer native insects and birds than native plants do
- Some pollinators cannot survive without the presence of a specific plant or plant group, such as the Monarch and Milkweeds. And, similarly, some plants require specific pollinators
- Pollinators are in decline due to increased pesticide use, decrease in natural habitats, and increases in non-native invasive plants



Bumblebee on Monarda



Chain Dotted Geometer photo credit: Brett A. Shelagowski



American Painted Lady on Ironweed photo credit: Brett A. Shelagowski



Monarch Caterpillar



Fritillary on Hill's Thistle photo credit: Chris M. Schumacher



Coral Hairstreak and Fritillary on Butterflyweed photo credit: Brett A. Shelagowski



American Copper on Blazing Star photo credit: Brett A. Shelagowski



Monarch on Blazing Star photo credit: Brett A. Shelagowski



Help protect the “Birds and Bees” - Use locally native plants in your landscape

Bee City USA

On April 8, 2024, the City of Novi City Council voted unanimously to adopt a resolution to become a Bee City USA affiliate. As a Bee City, Novi is committed to the conservation of our native bee species, honeybees, and other pollinators. This commitment will include raising community awareness of pollinators as well as the improvement and expansion of pollinator habitat within the City. [Adopted Resolution](#)

The [Beautification Commission](#), as part of their commitment to the enhancement and preservation of natural beauty, serves as the Novi Bee City USA committee.



[Information on Fuerst Park Monarch Waystation and Plants]

[Additional Information on Native Pollinators – to be posted by April 2025 or sooner]

[Recommended Native Plant List and Native Plant Supplier List – to be posted by April 2025]

[Information about beekeeping restrictions in the City of Novi, and City-owned Hives – to be posted as work with Cpt. Thiesen Progresses in 2025]

Novi is proud to join six other Bee City affiliates in Michigan including the City of Ann Arbor, City of Detroit, City of St. Joseph, City of Royal Oak, City of Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Charter Township.

For information about local native plants that support pollinators, visit the [Michigan State University Extension Native Plants and Ecosystem Services](#).

For more information and resources about pollinators from the Bee City USA founding entity, visit [The Xerces Society Webpage](#).