



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Native Plant Trust Celebrates National Pollinator Week June 21-27, Offers Resources to Support Pollinator Efforts across New England

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(Framingham, MA) Native Plant Trust, the nation's first plant conservation organization and the only one solely focused on New England's native plants, will celebrate Pollinator Week from June 21 to 27, 2021. Pollinators play a key role in the planet's health, but in recent years many pollinator species have faced severe population decline. National Pollinator Week highlights the importance of these species and their critical role in maintaining ecosystems and biodiversity around the world.

"Approximately 75% of both food crops and flowering plants rely on ants, bees, beetles, butterflies, bats, birds, and other animals for pollination," notes Debbi Edelstein, Executive Director of Native Plant Trust. "Increasing the use of native plants in our gardens and outdoor spaces, and growing them without pesticides, will help create healthy environments for native pollinators. Plants and pollinators have co-evolved to benefit each other and the region by providing food, habitat, seed dispersal, and more. Native Plant Trust supports National Pollinator Week to bring awareness to the special organisms that help New England's native plants flourish."

In recognition of the critical role pollinators play in our ecosystem, Native Plant Trust offers several educational opportunities and resources on the topic, including:

Gardening for Pollinators (online): Learn how to convert a yard into a productive pollinator habit.

Planning for Pollinators: Casey Farm: This interactive workshop will guide you in how to choose native plants that encourage native pollinators.

Plant-Insect Interactions: Improve your identification skills and explore plant-insect interactions through discussion and fieldwork.

Creating Native Plant Palettes for Beauty and Biodiversity (online): Using sample plant lists, receive step-by-step guidance for this year's fall planting.

Designing with Native Plants (online): Discover the variety of native plants found throughout New England and learn how to design a visually interesting landscape that also supports biodiversity.

Native Plant Trust offers additional resources to protect against pollinator decline, including Plant Finder, a free plant database for gardeners that is searchable by desired pollinator type, and a wide range of native plants that support pollinators for sale in its shops.

To register for programs and access resources, please visit www.NativePlantTrust.org.

ABOUT NATIVE PLANT TRUST

Native Plant Trust is the nation's first plant conservation organization and the only one solely focused on New England's native plants. We save native plants in the wild, grow them for gardens and restorations, and educate others on their value and use. We are based at Garden in the Woods, a renowned native plant botanic garden that attracts visitors from all over the world. From this flagship property in Framingham, Massachusetts, 25 staff and many of our 1,500 trained volunteers work throughout New England each year to monitor and protect rare and endangered plants, collect and preserve seeds to ensure biological diversity, detect and control invasive species, conduct research, and offer a range of educational programs. Native Plant Trust also operates a nursery at Nasami Farm in western Massachusetts and manages six sanctuaries in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont that are open to the public. For more information, please visit www.NativePlantTrust.org.

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