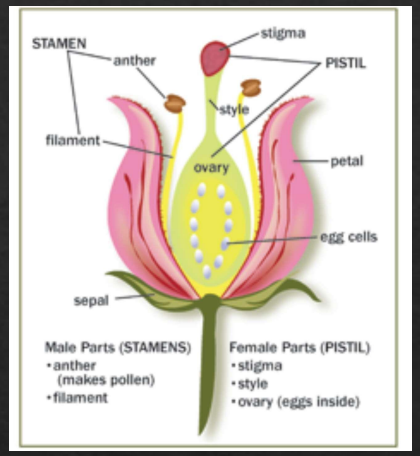
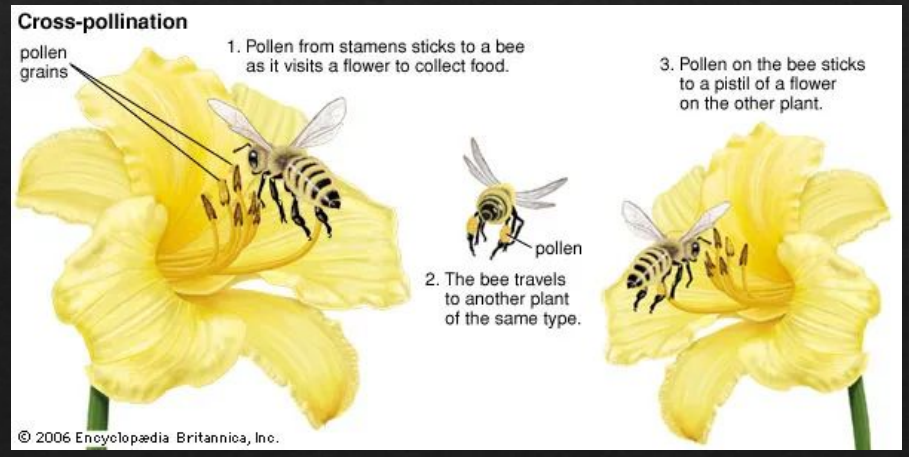
Developing a pollinator protection plan for Collingwood

Jordan Phelps, Vicki Wojcik, Adèle Grenouilleau

What are pollinators?

Animals that move pollen between the male and female reproductive parts of flowers, initiating a process that produces seeds, fruits, and the next generation of plants.





Who are pollinators?

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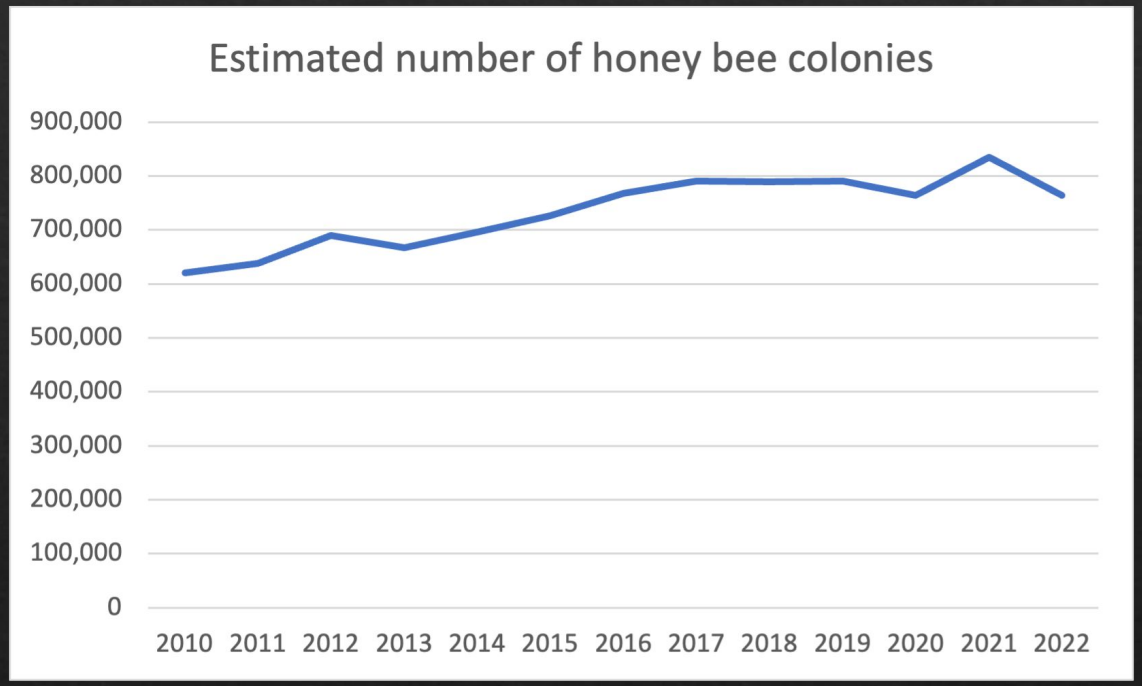

Statistics Canada: Production and value of honey

Who are pollinators?

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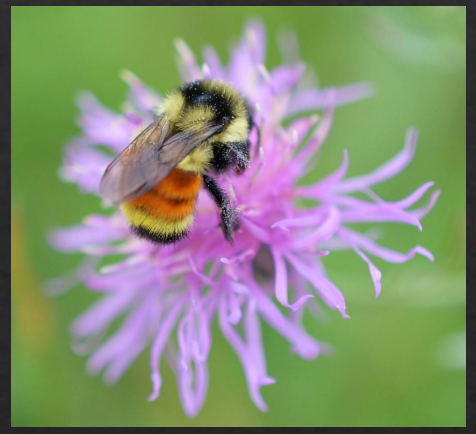
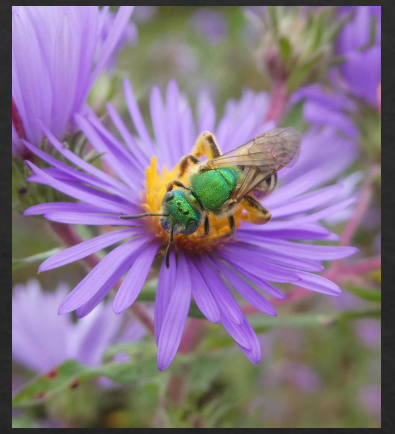
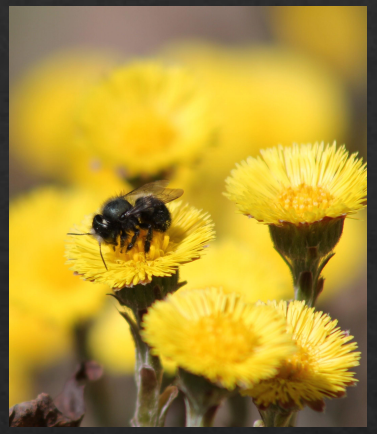

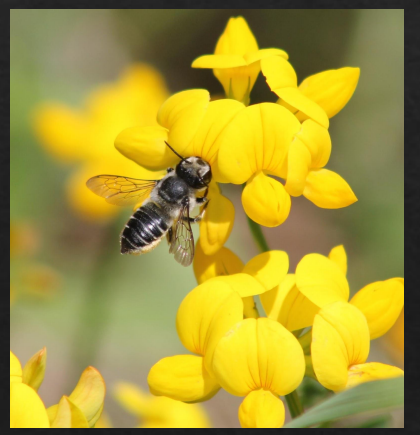
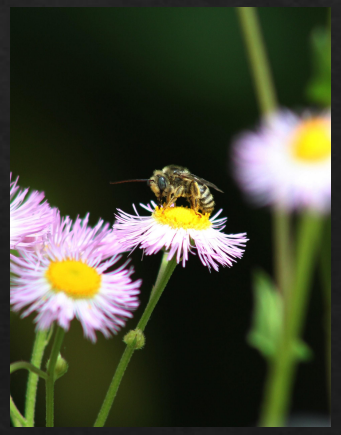

800+ species in Canada, 20,000 worldwide

Who are pollinators?

And that’s just bees!

Who are pollinators?

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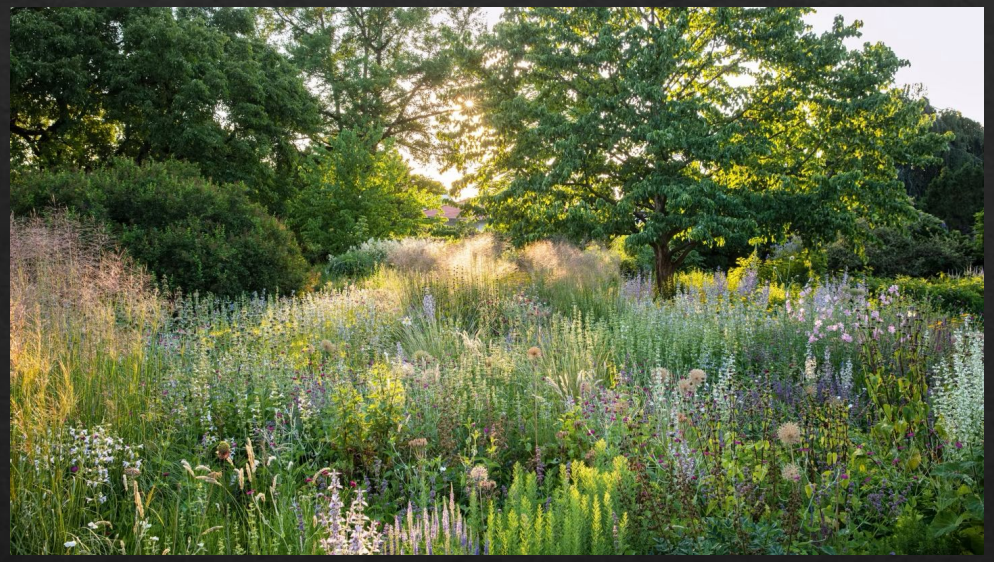
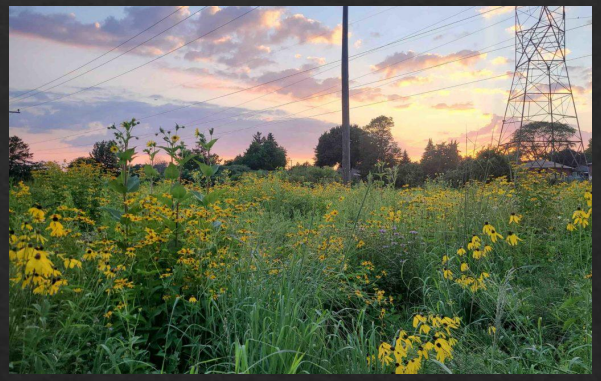
Why protect pollinators?



Ecosystem functioning

Food production

Municipalities are taking action on pollinators



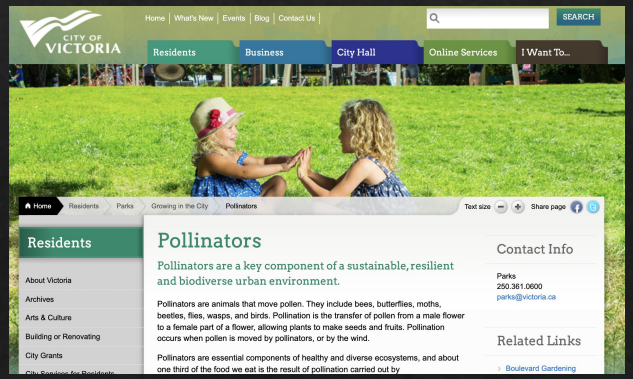
Habitat Restorations

Pollinator Gardens

Invasive Species Removal

Pesticide Reduction

Seed Libraries



Community Outreach

Municipalities are taking action on pollinators

68 Bee Cities across Canada

Biodiversity Strategies

Pollinator Protection Strategies

Pollinator protection strategies in Canada

2018

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2022

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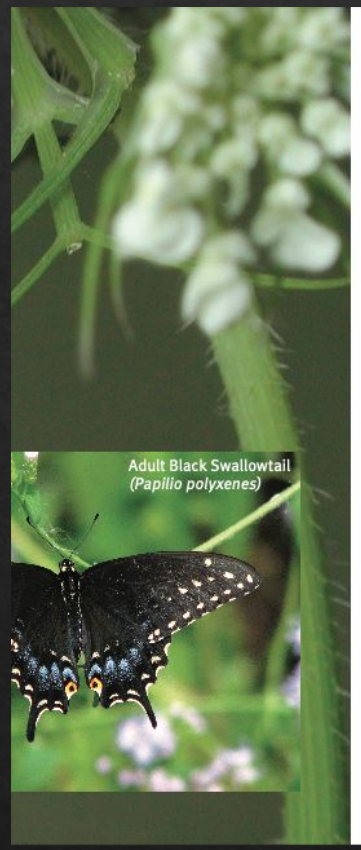
SINCE 1858 A PLACE TO LIVE WORK & PLAY
COLLINGWOOD

Strategies contain guiding principles and explicit actions



POLLINATOR PROTECTION STRATEGY: VISION, PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS

Toronto's vision is to be home to diverse pollinator communities that contribute to resilient ecosystems and enhance urban biodiversity.

To achieve this vision, Toronto's Pollinator Protection Strategy identifies six priorities:

1) Create and enhance habitat

2) Design and connect green spaces

3) Partner and build relationships

4) Invest and incentivize

5) Educate and train

6) Celebrate and recognize achievements

For each priority, a series of actions have been developed that will help to achieve this vision. These actions will support native bees and butterflies, and will also be beneficial to all pollinators, including non-native honey bees. Habitat creation in particular will have a positive impact on all pollinators, and is the foundation of the Strategy.

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Toronto

Goals and orientations **11**

1. Conserve, create and connect pollinator-friendly habitats 11
   - 1.1 Continue to protect and restore natural environments 11
   - 1.2 Increase connectivity between habitat patches 12
   - 1.3 Create habitats and developments based on pollinators' needs 12
   - 1.4 Maintain open spaces in protected natural areas 13
   - 1.5 Develop urban planning tools to promote greening 14

2. Improve pollinators' living conditions 14
   - 2.1 Adapt green space management practices 14
   - 2.2 Favour nectar plants, preferably native, with diverse flowering periods staggered over time 15
   - 2.3 Strive to eliminate the use of pesticides 16
   - 2.4 Improve cohabitation between honey bees and native pollinators 16

3. Recognize the importance of pollinators for biodiversity 17
   - 3.1 Increase knowledge of pollinators and their habitats 17
   - 3.2 Disseminate knowledge about pollinators 18
   - 3.3 Recognize and celebrate pollinators 18

Montreal

Actions are typically in three core areas

1. Habitat creation and management
2. Education and engagement
3. Celebrating pollinators

Bee City CANADA

1. Habitat creation and management

1.1 Habitat planning and creation

- Create native plant pollinator gardens
- Create edible gardens, orchards and food forest
- Create habitat networks
- Naturalize large areas of habitat
- Dedicate resources to native plant propagation
- Develop habitat guides and tools

1. Habitat creation and management

1.2 Habitat management practices

- Develop integrated vegetation and pest management plans
- Set habitat standards and recommendations for development
- Promote pollinator-friendly practices in community gardens
- Complete a natural asset inventory
- Develop a pollinator habitat map
- Delay yard waste collection
- Reduce impacts of artificial nighttime light

1. Habitat creation and management

1.3 Empowering and incentivizing residents to create habitat

- Ensure that lawn bylaws are inclusive of naturalized yards
- Enable and encourage residents to plant on boulevards
- Provide pollinator habitat grants and rebates
- Offer native plant giveaways and subsidized sales
- Provide pollinator friendly garden consultations
- Promote pollinator garden certification programs
- Initiate seed libraries and encourage seed exchange
- Support farmers to protect pollinators on agricultural lands

2. Education and engagement

2.1 Media, education and materials

- Promote pollinator conservation through media channels
- Provide education and awareness materials about pollinators
- Use signage to educate residents about pollinators
- Provide pollinator-related training to municipal staff
- Educate youth about pollinators through schools and camps
- Use bee hotels to educate about native bees

2. Education and engagement

2.2 Engagement events and activities

- Feature pollinator talks and workshops
- Organize pollinator exhibits and day events
- Invite the community to pollinator habitat tours
- Encourage participation in community science
- Feature pollinators at broader community events, such as during Earth Day or at fall fairs
- Provide habitat creation and maintenance opportunities for volunteer engagement

3. Celebrate pollinators

- Host an annual Pollinator Week festival
- Recognize community efforts through garden cont
- Invite the community to habitat opening ceremoni
- Create pollinator-themed public art
- Launch pollinator photo contests on social media
- Present pollinator film screenings
- Provide pollinator-themed giveaways

Current efforts in Collingwood

pollinate COLLINGWOOD

Collingwood DOWNTOWN BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA

ENvironment Network

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM COLLINGWOOD

COLLINGWOOD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

eARTh Revival

Topics for discussion

- Where do you see pollinator efforts happening in Collingwood already?
- Which habitat creation & management actions would you like to see?
- Which education & engagement actions would you like to see?
- Which celebration actions would you like to see?

Thoughts ?

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Take the survey: