

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

**NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK**

June 20-26, 2022

By the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America

**A PROCLAMATION**

This week marks the national celebration of pollinators, vital partners to our nation's food system, economy, and ecosystem. Pollinator species, such as bats, birds, bees, butterflies, moths, and other insects, play an essential role in facilitating the production of much of our food supply. Healthy pollinator populations are critical to the continued ecological wellness of our agricultural system as well as the economic prosperity of our farming and ranching communities.

More than 100 U.S.-grown crops rely on pollination from honey bees and other insects that collectively ensure we have a variety of fruits, nuts, and vegetables to support a healthy, balanced diet. Honey bees are America's primary commercial pollinator, although there are more than 4,000 types of bee species in the U.S.

Pollinators are integral to our National Forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish, wildlife, timber, water, other resources, and recreational opportunities for U.S. communities. They provide significant environmental benefits necessary for healthy, biodiverse ecosystems.

Pollinator health is important to the well-being of U.S. agriculture, food security, and the Nation's overall economy. The U.S. Department of Agriculture invests in and supports pollinator health and conservation stewardship, including protecting and maintaining their habitats on working lands and wildlands.

We can all do our part to protect pollinator species by incorporating pollinator-friendly practices, like growing pollinator-attractive flowering trees and plants at home, in community gardens, or installing pollinator habitats on farms.

In celebration of pollinators' foundational role in supporting American food and agriculture, forest and grasslands, and other ecosystems, I, Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture, do hereby recognize and support June 20-26, 2022, as National Pollinator Week. I call on the people of our great nation to join me in celebrating pollinators' contributions to servicing and feeding our nation and the world.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of June, and the two-hundred forty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary