



PEOPLE AND POLLINATORS
ACTION NETWORK

Creating a Pollinator Safe Community

Overview

People and Pollinators Action Network is encouraging residents to create pollinator refuges by converting backyards and other properties to pollinator safe habitat. Safe havens for pollinators mean that there is healthy food and shelter for our pollinating wildlife. By joining others that are doing the same we can change Denver one garden or property at a time.

Suggested Steps

1. Designate a pollinator safe community leader or gather a team of neighbors that want to build safe habitat in their neighborhood.
2. Set short- and long-term goals to measure success. A short-range goal could be holding an educational meeting/gathering on your block to explain the importance of providing blooming plants for wildlife throughout the growing season and reducing and eliminating pesticide use. A long-term goal could be establishing a block of pollinator safe properties.
3. Provide resources to the community regarding pollinator safe/region appropriate plantings and natural management strategies (i.e. pamphlets, posters).
4. Ask neighbors or other property managers to sign a pollinator safe property pledge (<http://peopleandpollinators.org/our-solution/psn-pledge/>). Pledgers can choose to have their property displayed on a public map.
5. Display a pollinator habitat yard sign to indicate that a pledge has been signed and to spark conversations with neighbors.
6. Determine what educational strategies work best in your community (neighborhood presentations/tips, plant exchanges, kid activities, community plantings, neighborhood pollinator bio blitz)
7. Spread the message by hosting a pollinator themed community event; and by speaking with neighborhood organizations, nurseries about providing organic plants and local leaders about what can be accomplished city-wide to promote pollinator safe habitat.

Challenges

Convincing homeowners and other property managers that landscape can be managed without the use of harmful pesticides and that dandelions are beneficial for pollinators. Dandelions indicate safe places for people too!

Maintaining momentum after the initial pollinator pledge signing push. Keeping the initiative fresh can be accomplished by regularly meeting with your team, developing strategies to expand habitat, distributing resources and putting new practices into motion to create habitat in your neighborhood and beyond.



Issue

Habitat loss along with climate change and pesticide misapplication/overuse are key factors in pollinator decline, contributing to various health issues for pollinators that make them far more susceptible to pests and pathogens.

By creating pollinator safe communities, we can begin to address the loss of habitat in Denver by educating homeowners and encouraging them to change their practices and become more active on this issue.