

MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Pollinator Week 2015 Unites America in Conservation Action for Pollinators – All 50 State Governors Sign Proclamations!

The **Pollinator Partnership (P2)** announced today that its signature initiative, **Pollinator Week**, has reached significant new milestones in 2015. Established in 2007, Pollinator Week has grown exponentially in scope each year with this year **U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell**, proclaiming June 15-23 as Pollinator Week. In an unprecedented act of vision and solidarity, **ALL 50 state governors** have proclaimed Pollinator Week in their states as a time to celebrate and protect the nation's pollinating animals (a complete list of State proclamations and events is available at http://pollinator.org/npw_events.htm).

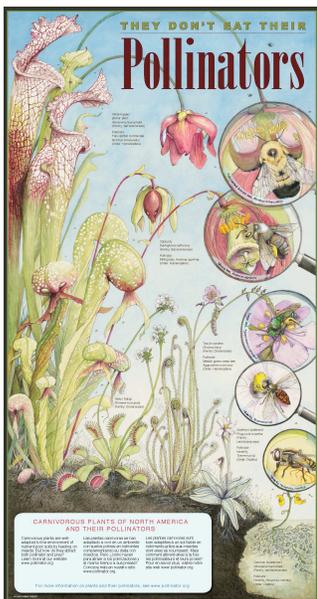
Pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, birds and other animals bring us one in every three bites of food, protect our environment. They form the underpinnings of a healthy and sustainable future. From Boulder, CO, where four masters of the classical Japanese bamboo flute “tweeted” the premier of original honey-bee themed music to the Honolulu Zoo’s Pollinator Party to tours of underground geothermally protected honey bee hives in Maine – Americans have put their ingenuity, creativity and drive into supporting pollinator health, an issue that they are doing something about!



Suzannah Kruse and son Parker, aged 6, give a honey bee presentation in a classroom in Oregon.

Joining and supporting this effort are some of the largest businesses and most powerful voices in the country. This year has marked a strong surge in interest in the health of America’s pollinators including **First Lady Michelle Obama’s** announcement at the White House of

the **Million Pollinator Garden Challenge**, an initiative of the newly-formed **National Pollinator Garden Network**, 22 first class non-profits and organizations representing gardens, pollinators, and plant nurseries. Pollinator Week celebrates a new dawn of wise land management across the country, spearheaded by the May release of the first-ever **Federal Strategy for the Health of Honey Bees and other Pollinators**.



Pollinator Week showcases the brand new pollinator poster of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), *Carnivorous Plants of North America and their Pollinators*. This 2015 poster marks the debut of pollinator artist **Teri Nye**, a self-taught artist, illustrator and photographer specializing in recording nature. The poster is available at www.pollinator.org where a new web feature illuminates the intricate interactions between carnivorous plants and their pollinators, and features photographs of the artist at work creating the poster.



Efforts during Pollinator Week, and indeed year-round, are working to reverse and prevent pollinator declines caused by loss of habitat, disease, pesticides, parasites and other interconnected assaults on pollinator populations. **Laurie Davies Adams**, Executive Director of the [Pollinator Partnership](#), said, "It's appropriate to see the highest levels of government as well as grassroots actions by individuals and communities taking action for pollinators. There are over 130 events taking place around the world for Pollinator Week 2015 - We applaud everyone participating. It's a great starting point for actions, large and small, that support the future of our pollinators, our food supply, and our environment."

The **Highways BEE Act** was introduced in the Congress during the run up to Pollinator Week by the joint leadership of **Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-FL) and Rep. Jeff Denham (R-CA), co-chairs of the Congressional Pollinator Protection Caucus (CP2C)**. Over 250 national, regional, and local organizations and 2,500 American scientists and individuals from all walks of life across the nation have already signed a petition in support of this approach. This pollinator action-opportunity continues for all interested organizations, businesses and individuals at <http://www.pollinator.org/BEEAct.htm>.



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ABOUT THE POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP (P2)

Established in 1997, the Pollinator Partnership is the largest 501(c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to the health, protection, and conservation of all pollinating animals. P2's actions for pollinators include education, conservation, restoration, policy, and research. P2's financial support comes through grants, gifts, memberships and donations from any interested party. P2's policies are science-based, set by its board of directors, and never influenced by any donor. To make a donation or for information on events during Pollinator Week visit www.pollinator.org.