

NAPPC International Conference Celebrates 15 Years

This year's North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC) Conference, hosted at the U.S. Department of the Interior, was a huge success with more organizations represented than ever before!

This event included fantastic, world class presentations from leaders in the pollinator field including; the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Dan Ashe; the highly regarded botanist, Dr. Peter Raven; and the Vice President of American Beekeeping Federation, Gene Brandi. Additionally, the plight of monarch butterflies was a central topic of conversation at the conference. NAPPC convenes 10 task forces, each establishing goals surrounding a certain pollinator issue, who then continue their work through the following year. One task force aims to provide municipalities with the science to effectively treat vector-borne diseases without harming pollinators. Another focuses on honey bee health, creating partnerships and gathering funding to distribute scientific grants. This same group has created The BeeMD (www.thebeemd.com) web application to help beekeepers diagnose and treat hive maladies.

The joint efforts of the NAPPC collective will help the Federal Strategy on pollinators become a reality through direct action. The Pollinator Partnership works tirelessly to bring partners of all backgrounds together, without judgement or bias, for one important goal – to help the pollinators!



Full conference recap visit: www.pollinator.org/nappc/2015

THE BUZZZ

The newsletter for friends and supporters of the Pollinator Partnership

**POLLINATOR
PARTNERSHIP**

Protect their lives. Preserve ours.

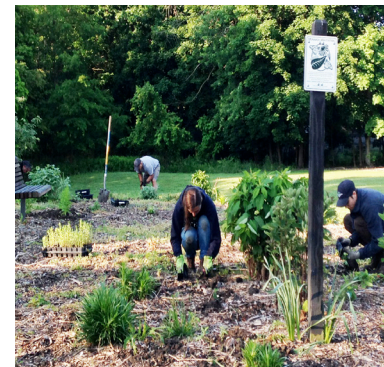
Pollinator Partnership Newsletter
Fall/Winter 2015

If You Plant It, They Will Come



Monarch Wings Across Ohio (MWAO) officially launched in 2015 and has just completed its first field season. With generous support from The Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation, the program has been established to develop Ohio-specific monarch habitat development guides for farms, urban landscapes, gardens and corporate lands. These guides will include Ohio-specific planting lists.

In order to develop science-based planting lists, 16 monarch habitat research plots have been planted throughout Northeast Ohio. Each of the 16 monarch habitat research plots have been planted with native Ohio species of milkweed and plants that are thought to be a good source of nectar for migrating adult monarchs. Combined, the 16 plots have been planted with 10,000 plants! This would not have been possible without our remarkable partners who have committed staff time, land, funding, volunteer hours, mulch, and other supplies to restoring the Ohio portion of the monarch migration.



MWAO enlisted a team of field researchers to collect plant-monarch interaction data from the plots during the summer and into the fall. Over the winter months, the data will be analyzed. However, in order to make the best planting recommendations possible, another 3-5 years worth of data will be collected. Once the data has been compiled, the Ohio-specific guides will be published and available for free on the Pollinator Partnership website.

While many organizations in Northeast Ohio have partnered with the Pollinator Partnership to support monarchs, other states need an equally enthusiastic commitment. For more information on what you can do to support monarchs visit: www.pollinator.org/monarchs.

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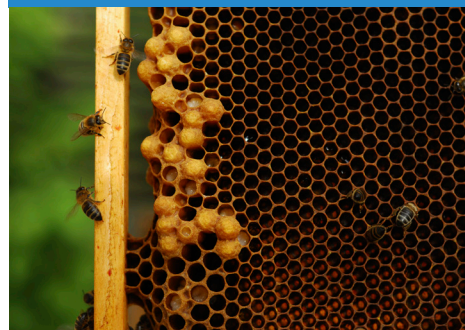
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A Note from the Executive Director



As we look back on this amazing year for Pollinator Partnership, it is evident that the P2 style of inclusive collaboration for change is truly the most effective way to build real change in the environment. A survey of our successes this year – the Federal Strategy to Support the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators, the Monarch Wings Across America, the US Bee Buffer Project, the 15th Annual NAPPCC International Meeting, the inclusion of Pollinators in the Transportation Act, the launch of Pollinator Partnership Canada, a revamped web site, the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge, and the addition of new and committed board members – reveals that the team at Pollinator Partnership are experts in real change. Basing all decisions strictly on the latest science, P2 is THE trusted source for action and information to help pollinators. As our planet faces more extraordinary challenges, one concept rises above the chatter; we must work together across boundaries – real or perceived – if we are to restore, revive, and reinvigorate our environment. We thank all supporters of Pollinator Partnership for your continuous participation in real change through your gifts of resources and thoughtful action. Together, we are not only reshaping the landscape, we are becoming examples of HOW to work together for sustainability. Thank you for helping us get the job done!

Laurie Davies Adams



US Bee Buffer Program Expands

Protect. Pollinate. Produce.

The US Bee Buffer Program is a honey bee research effort lead by the Pollinator Partnership to determine cost-effective forage friendly honey bee seed mixes for agricultural areas. The program launched in 2014 by recruiting farmers, ranchers, beekeepers and orchardists in North Carolina and California. The program received so many applications that the current level of funding could not keep up with demand. By the spring of 2015, nearly 200 bee buffers had been seeded across North Carolina and California.

This past summer, a team of field researchers spread out across North Carolina and California to collect honey bee visitation data, interview the bee buffer participants, and observe the bee buffers throughout both states. The results are being analyzed and will be used to evaluate the attractiveness of the bee buffers to honey bees. Since this is a research program, a minimum of 2 more years' worth of data needs to be collected in



order to make informed recommendations. In the late summer of 2015, the US Bee Buffer Program expanded to farms, ranches, and apiaries in Ohio. In Ohio, the program's objectives are the same: develop a cost-effective honey bee forage mix for agricultural areas. Applications to participate in the program came pouring in across the state and qualified participants have begun seeding their bee buffer seed mix. A spring seeding is also planned for 2016.

While the US Bee Buffer Program is off to a strong start, it needs your help. We are seeking Corporate Sponsorship support to expand the program to other states as well as support vital field research in Ohio, North Carolina and California. Honey bees need forage in every state and US Bee Buffers is striving to meet that challenge. For more information on supporting Bee Buffers through your corporate cause marketing effort in any state please contact Mary Galea at mg@pollinator.org.



We're busy as bees producing **The Buzz**.

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Tom Van Arsdall

Fashion Meets Bees in Canada For a Good Cause

A designer clutch and three colorful lip pencils in support for Pollinator Partnership's Canadian programs was a recipe for success this past summer. High-end retailer Holt Renfrew teamed up in conjunction with indy-chic bag designer Ela to channel the essence of pollinators into a wearable accessory that sported more than just the hottest trends in summer florals. Each year the H Project focuses on retail based charitable contributions matching retail partners with cause-based groups. The pollinator H Project was the most successful yet, with 100% of the proceeds, or \$100,000, going directly to support Pollinator Partnership's Canadian programs.



The Buzz is published by the Pollinator Partnership and mailed to all of our donors and interested friends of pollinators. This issue is also available at our website at www.pollinator.org.

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New P2 Board Member

Daniel Bennett is an entrepreneur, business executive, philanthropist and explorer. In addition to his new role at the Pollinator Partnership, Dan currently serves on the President's Advisory Council of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington D.C., the Board of Trustees of Our Lady of The Lake University in San Antonio, Texas, and as Exploration Chair for Tree Foundation of Sarasota, Florida.



A Native of San Antonio, Texas, Dan was the Founder and CEO of Sunbelt Sportswear, an international sportswear design and manufacturing company. A former recipient of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, he was also a member of the Board of Directors of JP Morgan Chase Bank in San Antonio, former treasurer of The Mountain Institute in Washington D.C., former chairman of ACCION Texas and former treasurer of ACCION USA, the largest non-profit microenterprise lender in the U.S. Bennett also served as the 36th president of The Explorers Club and has participated in many expeditions involving scientific fieldwork in many different countries around the world.

The Best Supporters in the World! THANK YOU!

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Pollinator Roadsides Provision Nears Finish Line

Congressional action for the first time ever to include measures benefiting pollinators in both the Senate and House transportation bills represents a major benchmark in the five-year effort by the Pollinator Partnership (P2) and our many supporters to “pollinate” federal transportation law.

An identical provision in the Senate and House transportation bills directs the Secretary of Transportation to use existing authorities, programs and funding to assist IVM and pollinator habitat efforts by willing state Departments of Transportation (DOT’s). Highway rights-of-way managed by state DOT’s represent 17 million acres of opportunity for cash-strapped states to both save money and improve pollinator habitat through Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM), including reduced mowing and strategic plantings of native forbs and grasses.

Responding to a serious last minute threat, P2 helped defeat a floor amendment offered by Reps. Vicky Hartzler (R-MO) and Richard Hudson (R-NC) that would have eliminated funding for all vegetation management projects for federal highways and other rights-of-way. Many supporters responded to P2 action alerts. A letter signed by P2 and 60 other organizations opposing the amendment was sent to all House members. The amendment was defeated by a bipartisan vote of 172-255!



A huge thanks goes to Reps. Jeff Denham (R-CA) and Alcee L. Hastings (D-FL), Congressional Pollinator Protection Caucus (CP2C) co-chairs, and to Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) for their effective leadership. Reps. Denham and Hastings introduced H.R. 2738, the Highways BEE Act, on the eve of 2015 Pollinator Week. Senator Gillibrand then succeeded in getting a provision based on the Highways BEE Act in transportation legislation passed by the Senate last summer. Rep. Denham took the lead in adding the same measure to legislation just passed by the House. Denham and Hastings were also leaders in defeating the Hartzler/Hudson amendment on the House floor. Rep. Denham recently received a special 2015 Pollinator Advocate Award for his leadership on pollinator issues in the Congress from the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC).

Over 250 national, regional, and local organizations and 2,800 American scientists and individuals from all walks of life across the nation have signed a petition in support of the Highways BEE Act. For more information, go to www.pollinator.org/BEEAct. As this issue goes to press, Congress is nearly to the finish line, with the transportation reauthorization legislation in a House-Senate conference. Looking ahead, P2 will continue to work with the Administration, interested stakeholders, and state DOT’s.



Funding Conservation: The Importance of Annual Giving

As we look back on our achievements of the last year, we recognize that none of this would have been possible without the most important part of our team – our donors. Pollinator Partnership relies on funding from its loyal donor base to sustain day-to-day operations, as well as to fund key programs like the Honey Bee Health Improvement Project and Monarch Wings Across Ohio.

Individual donors provide the foundation for all our conservation actions, and every dollar is leveraged to make a lasting difference for pollinators. Our diverse donor base includes people from all walks of life, but what they share is an

understanding of the importance of pollinators to the sustainability of our planet’s finite natural resources. They recognize that human action is jeopardizing the very creatures that maintain our food security, economy, and natural ecosystems. Our donors believe in our work and trust us to take action on their behalf – a trust that we do not take lightly

With your support, we will forge ahead with new scientific research, outreach, and education necessary to mitigate pollinator decline. To learn more about our fundable projects and make a donation, visit www.pollinator.org/donate.



New P2 Board Member



Scott Griffin currently serves as Chief Sustainability Officer & Vice President, Communications at Greif, Inc., a global leader in industrial

packaging. Greif has been recognized by President Bill Clinton and the Clinton Global Initiative for its work to address food availability and security. Scott leads the development of Greif’s sustainability strategy and works with communities, governments and NGO partners to reach the company’s sustainability goals. He serves as the liaison delegate for Greif on the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the Clinton Global Initiative, and is the executive focal point for Greif’s partnership with The Conservation Fund.

Scott teaches courses on International Studies, Strategy and Sustainability at the Ohio State University’s Fisher Graduate School of Business. He also serves on the Board of Directors for a number of non-profit institutions, including Ohio State Parks and Columbus State Community College. Prior to joining Greif in 2006, Scott spent 15 years at Dow Chemical and four years at The American Chemical Society.