

NORTH AMERICAN POLLINATOR PROTECTION CAMPAIGN (NAPPC)

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U.S. SENATE RECOGNIZES VITAL ROLE OF POLLINATORS IN BENEFITING ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND AGRICULTURE

Resolution Calls Attention to Critical Role of Pollinators, Designates National Pollinator Week in 2007

WASHINGTON, DC -- The U.S. Senate has unanimously approved a Resolution to recognize the vital role of pollinators to ecosystem health and agriculture and the value of ongoing public-private partnership efforts to increase awareness and support for protecting pollinators.

The Resolution (S. Res. 580), sponsored by Senator Saxby Chambliss (R-GA), chairman of the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee and approved by the Senate on September 21, applauds the collaborative efforts of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC) and designates June 24-30, 2007, as National Pollinator Week.

"Pollinators play a vital role in helping produce the food we eat and in maintaining healthy ecosystems," Chambliss said, hailing NAPPC as a cooperative conservation effort that can help increase public awareness of, and support for, protecting these tiny partners which include highly valued bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, bats and numerous other species.

"We applaud the leadership of Chairman Chambliss and the U.S. Senate," declared NAPPC Chairman Paul Growald. "This Resolution lays important groundwork for the upcoming daylong Pollinator Symposium scheduled for October 18 at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, as well as the action plan being developed by the Pollinator Partnership for 2007." NAPPC collaborators from nearly 100 organizations will be convening a two-day workshop at USDA on October 19-20 to develop a consensus-based program for the coming year.

This hallmark Pollinator Symposium, hosted by the USDA Forest Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and NAPPC, is open to the public and to news media. However, advance registration is required. For more information about the Pollinator Partnership campaign and the upcoming Symposium and registration go to http://www.pollinator.org.

NAPPC, managed by the Coevolution Institute (CoE), is a tri-national, public-private collaboration of scientific researchers, managers and other employees of state and federal agencies, private industry and conservation and environmental groups dedicated to ensuring sustainable populations of pollinating invertebrates, birds and mammals throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. NAPPC's participants, from nearly 140 entities, are working together to promote awareness and scientific understanding of pollinators; gather, organize and disseminate information about pollinators; provide a forum to identify and discuss pollinator issues; and promote projects, initiatives and activities that enhance pollinators. For more information about NAPPC, go to https://www.nappc.org.