

## **NORWALK POLLINATOR PATHWAY**

**WHEREAS**, pollinators are in decline primarily due to land development and fragmentation, a lack of the native plants they need to survive, and a lawn culture that requires excessive fertilizers and pesticides and that offers no benefits to bees and other wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, pollinators species such as bees, butterflies, birds and others are vital to maintaining healthy and diverse ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, pollinators both depend on and support the native plants of Norwalk which provide food and shelter for all wildlife, help prevent erosion, keep our waterways clean, and improve the air that we breathe; and

**WHEREAS**, pollination is responsible for the food we eat; and

**WHEREAS**, five bees species are threatened or of special concern in Connecticut and a downward trend is seen in all bee and butterfly populations; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of pesticides is often excessive and inappropriate; and

**WHEREAS**, Norwalk is cognizant of the need for safe and healthy landscapes for its residents and habitat for important pollinators; and

**WHEREAS**, recent scientific research supports the benefits of restoring and reconnecting small isolated patches of habitat.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I HARRY W. RILLING, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORWALK, CONNECTICUT** do hereby recognize and lend my support for:

### **THE NORWALK POLLINATOR PATHWAY**

and, in so doing, call upon the citizens to support the Pollinator Pathway organizers: the Norwalk River Watershed Association, Norwalk Land Trust, Norwalk River Valley Trail, Norwalk Tree Advisory Committee, Norwalk Garden Club, Rowayton Gardeners, Coalition of Norwalk Neighborhood Associations, Harbor View Association, Norwalk Association of Silvermine Homeowners, and Village Creek Homeowners Association. I encourage landowners to take cognizance of this initiative and to participate, as means allow, in creating safe yards and properties that can provide pesticide-free, native floral resources and habitat for our threatened pollinators.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Norwalk, Connecticut to be affixed on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

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Harry W. Rilling, **MAYOR**  
City of Norwalk, Connecticut