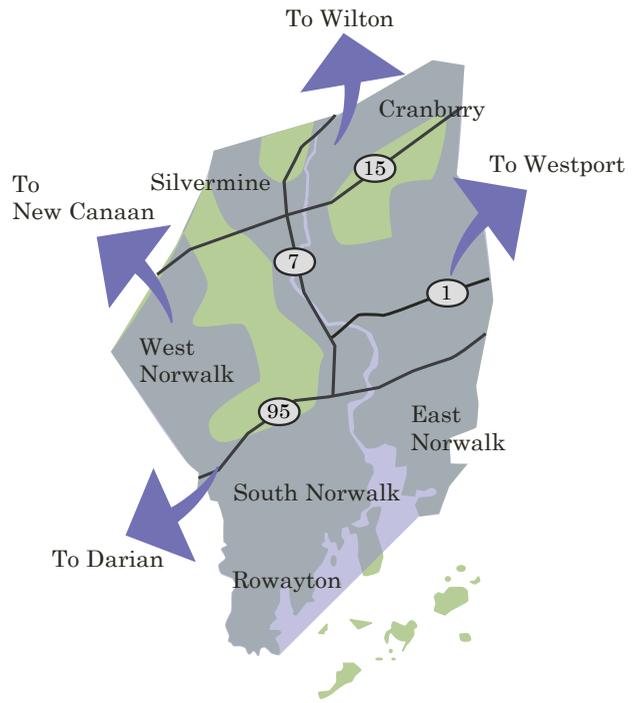


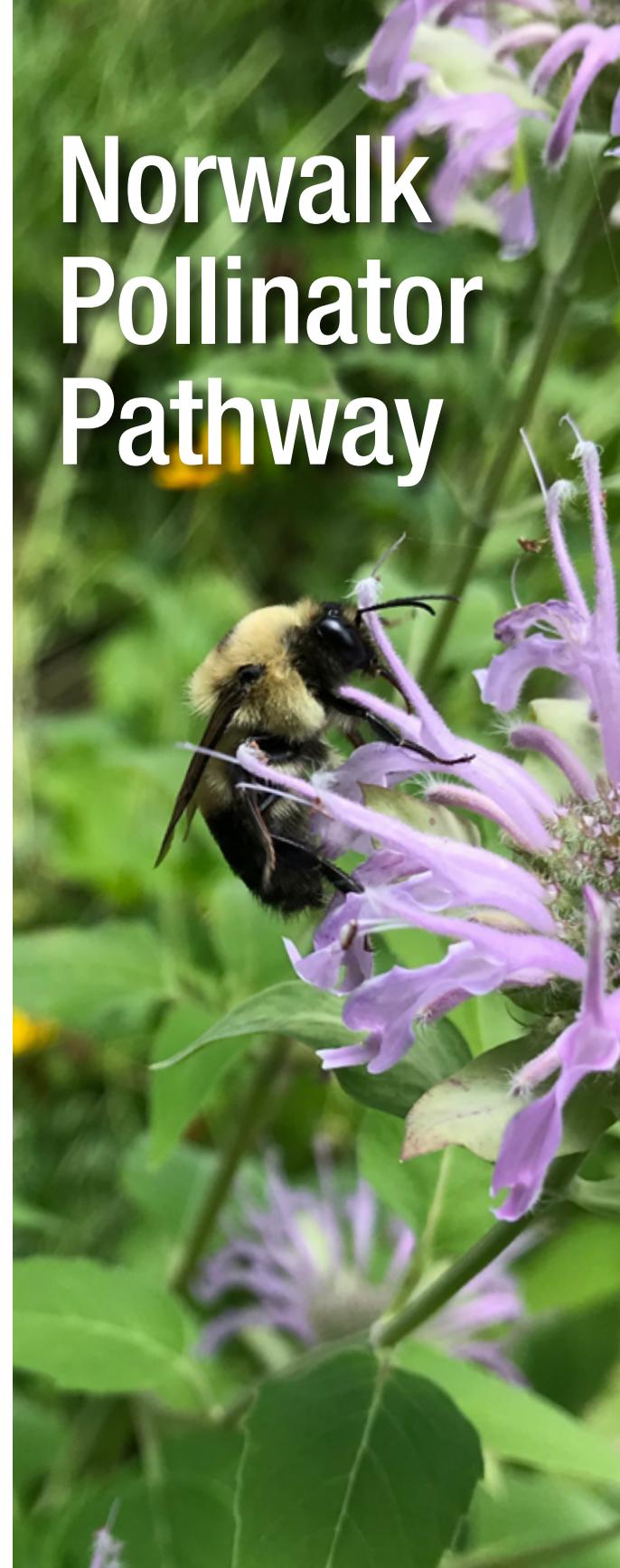
If you plant it, they will come.



At a recent Pollinator Workshop, participants built "bee hotels" for native, solitary bees.



- Our goal is to create a corridor of contiguous pollinator-friendly properties including the open spaces in Norwalk and the adjacent private ones belonging to residents.
- If you live along the designated Pollinator Pathway we especially hope you'll decide to join the fun and sign up to participate.
- Everyone in Norwalk should consider taking part in the Pollinator Pathway project since the bees and butterflies don't recognize the signs and only look for the nectar!



Norwalk Pollinator Pathway

Contact us

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Pollinator-pathway.org



The Norwalk Pollinator Pathway is a collaboration of Norwalk River Watershed Association, Norwalk Land Trust, Norwalk River Valley Trail, Norwalk Tree Advisory Committee, Norwalk Garden Club, Rowayton Gardeners, Harbor View Association, Norwalk Association of Silvermine Homeowners, Village Creek Homeowners Association, and the people of Norwalk.



Photograph courtesy of the Audubon Society

What is a Pollinator Pathway?

- a wildlife corridor providing habitat and nutrition for pollinators
- healthy pesticide-free yards and public spaces for pollinators, pets & families

“The goal is to protect pollinators, forests, fields, and streams, but also to connect open space, people, and towns to each other.”

—Louise Washer,
President of the Norwalk River Watershed Association

How to “Bee” Part of the Pollinator Pathway

1

Plant Native Plants

- Trees, shrubs, and wildflowers native to this area provide food and shelter for local pollinators
- Plant a container or garden with pollinator plants or integrate natives into your existing landscaping
- Remove non-native invasive plants

2

Go Pesticide-Free

- This means a healthy lawn for your children and pets too
- Landscape to minimize tick habitat
- Consider organic alternatives to poisons

3

Rethink Your Lawn

- Consider using slow-release organic fertilizers, if any
- Leave the clippings on your lawn rather than adding chemicals
- Convert some of your lawn to native trees, shrubs, flowers
- Mow less often, every 2–3 weeks is best
- Leave some leaves in beds for overwintering insects
- Mow remaining leaves in the fall and let them fertilize the lawn
- Provide a source of clean water for pollinators and birds
- Leave some dirt patches for native ground nesting bees

What are pollinators?

- birds, bees, butterflies and other insects, bats and other mammals, rodents and amphibians

What do they do?

- move pollen from one plant to another, enabling cross fertilization
- allow the reproduction and the growth of new plants — 35% of our food grows as a result of the work pollinators do

What is threatening our pollinators?

- widespread application of pesticides and other chemicals on lawns, landscaped plantings, and agricultural crops
- climate changes that lead to lack of larval host plants
- loss of habitat as more and more natural environments become urban and suburban
- the spread of invasive (non-native) plants



Monarch butterfly populations have plummeted by approximately 90 percent in just the last two decades.

—National Wildlife Federation