



Town of East Lyme

Office of the First Selectman
Pollinator Pathway Proclamation

WHEREAS, *the loss of pollinators is alarmingly high, with populations of native bees and other pollinators in decline, with five native bee species threatened and of special concern in Connecticut and a downward trend being seen in all native bee and butterfly populations; and*

WHEREAS, *pollinator species of bees, butterflies, birds and others are vital to maintaining healthy and diverse ecosystems, they are the basis of the food chain and provide essential food crops for human and livestock consumption;*

WHEREAS, *pollinators are in decline due to land development and fragmentation, a lack of native plants they need for survival, a lawn culture that is associated with excessive fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides and excessive water that offers no benefits to pollinators and most other wildlife; and*

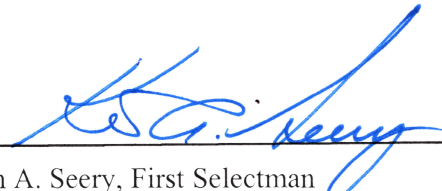
WHEREAS, *populations of pollinators can be supported and enhanced by increasing native habitat that is protected from chemical contamination, many residential gardens (over 70) in East Lyme have chosen to become pollinator friendly habitats; and*

WHEREAS, *recent scientific research supports the benefits of restoring and reconnecting isolated areas of habitats and utilizing IPM, Integrated Pest Management; and*

WHEREAS, *East Lyme is cognizant of the need for native plant landscapes for its residents and habitat for important pollinators, and in accordance with East Lyme's Plan of Conservation and Development adopted in 2020.*

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, *the East Lyme Board of Selectmen do hereby recognize and lend their support for the above and, in doing so, call upon the community of East Lyme; the Department of Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Commission of Conservation and Natural Resources and all other town departments, committees, and organizations and all residents to take cognizance of this initiative and to participate, as means allows, to create, restore and enhance native plant habitats that are subjected to only responsible pesticide use that avoids direct application to flowering plants and to allow undisturbed nesting sites and winter foliage for hibernation including undisturbed soil, pithy stems and fallen leaves as described by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *this resolution shall become effective, with this seal and on this date.*



Kevin A. Seery, First Selectman
Town of East Lyme

August 2022

