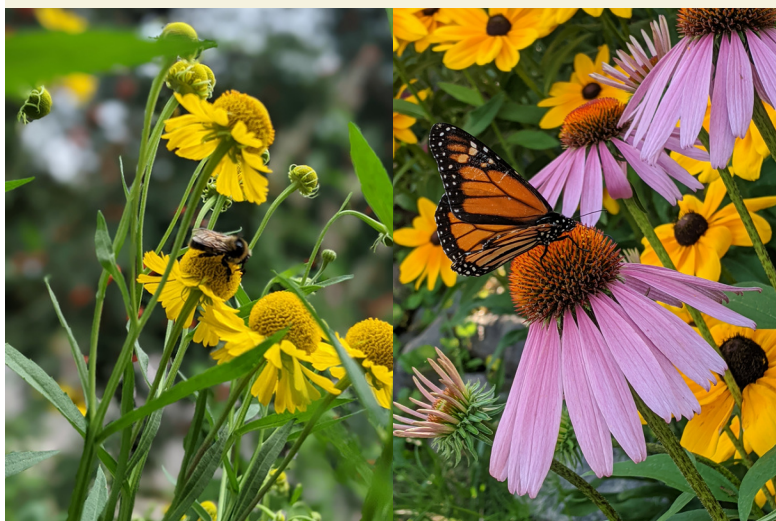


Lawns to Legumes



Talking with your neighbors about your native planting

Native pollinator plantings are beautiful, but depart from the traditional manicured lawn look. Not all of your neighbors might agree with a more “wild” aesthetic. Here’s some tips when talking about your pollinator planting:



1. Share your personal “why.”

What motivates you to plant native?

- For the beauty of native plants
- You enjoy MN’s clean lakes and rivers
- Your love for bumble bees and butterflies
- The minimal maintenance required

Share your enthusiasm and support

- Share some photos of pollinator visitors
- Offer some seeds from your plants



2. Explain the impact of your planting.

- Pollinators play an essential role in food production as well as maintaining healthy ecosystems
- There are more than 450 native bee species in Minnesota, along with hundreds of other pollinators
- Contributors to pollinator decline include habitat loss, pesticides, pathogens, and climate change
- Native plantings improve stormwater infiltration and soil microbial health
- Native plantings increase our opportunities to enjoy, examine, and engage with the natural world



3. Invite them into the broader movement

- Explain that your planting is part of Lawns to Legumes
- Encourage them to apply for a Lawns to Legumes grant at bluethumb.org.
- Share about Minnesota’s new law that protects natural landscapes