



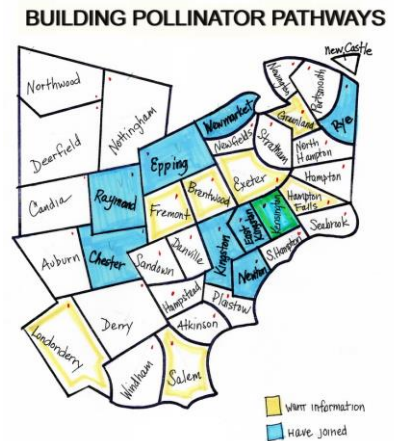
Pollinator Pathways NH is canceling all programs through April. We support social distancing as a prudent measure to mitigate the spread of coronavirus in our community. We will reschedule when we feel it's safe to do so

Until we meet again (hopefully in May), we invite you to support pollinators at home:

1. follow us on Facebook at [pollinatorpathwaysNH](#)
2. join our native plant society, Native Plant Trust ([amazing resources, gardens and plants!](#))
3. sign up for an online course, such as [Gardening for Pollinators](#)
4. Watch or listen to scientist Doug Tallamy, author of [Bringing Nature Home](#) and [Nature's Best Hope](#)

Picture a garden that has stepping stones for a pathway across a lawn. A Pollinator Pathway is like these stepping stones. It is areas with native plants and friendly habitat that will sustain pollinators in their quest for food. It is a corridor joining dislocated groups of habitats. It's actually a 'two-for' because with more pollinators in an area other wildlife will also move in.

Pollinator pathways NH is just over a year old. In this past year we have spoken to nine Conservation Commissions and they all have agreed to be stepping stones with Kingston. Other towns want us to show them what we are doing. The map of Rockingham County in this letter shows a very large pollinator pathway across the county. To say that this movement is exciting is an understatement. Every one reading this letter has helped Pollinator Pathways NH come this far. You all deserve a pat on the back. Keep up the good work.



In the 'work' category it is March....ALMOST real Spring in New



England. But unfortunately it's only Almost-Spring. Sadly it's still too early to tear into raking and digging. Temperatures need to be staying above 50 degrees in the daytime for a while for that. Pollinators are still hiding out in the leaf litter and plant stalks. But there are some seeds that do well planted at this time of year and some things need pruning. So it's the perfect time of year to plan things. It's the best time of year to see things. The ground is open. Leafless trees can be inspected. Invasive vines can't hide. Some bulbs in warm spots are coming up. It's

a great time of year! The bugs are out early! There were lightning bugs (like the one pictured here) on one of our Maple trees today.

If all the snow is gone from your gardens carefully get the matted leaves off the places that have early spring bulbs.

For a fun project Monarch Watch has a planting scheme for milkweed that is fabulous. Good for 'Almost-Spring' and a great kids project also. It is a kickstarter site but don't be put off by that. There is SO much information about Monarchs and pollinators. It's great.

www.kickstarter.com/projects/274547468/monarch-butterfly-rescue-kit

For native plants and trees go to:

NH State Forest Nursery - nh.gov/nursery

They sell bare root plants at great prices.

For Native Seeds go to :

Wild Seed Project – wildseedproject.net

Directions for planting are included with the seeds.

For local sales of Native Plants go to :

Rolling Green Nursery – 64 Breakfast Hill Rd., Greenland, NH
603-436-2732



Plan what you want your property to look like. It may not happen all in one season. Chip away at it.

Plan to not use pesticides and herbicides This link from xerces is long but worth reading. It's very informative.

<https://www.xerces.org/pesticides> Reducing Pesticide Use and Impacts

Mosquitoes are on their way soon. The overall spraying of yards is very detrimental to the pollinators and other wildlife. It's also not good for people. If you have any water on your property try using 'Mosquito Dunks'. Dunks are sold on the internet and also at Dodges' Agway in Plaistow, Hampton and Salem. It is this type of prevention that the above Xerces site talks about. Dunks use the ingredient Bti which kills the larvae as they hatch and come to the top of the water they're in. Any water source can hatch mosquitoes. It can be an old tire, a bird bath, or a footprint impression. These small sources can hatch hundreds of mosquitoes. If you have no water on your property fill a bucket or a small wading pool with water and put a dunk in it. The Mosquitoes will lay their eggs in the water and the larvae will drown.

Plan on using bug repellent. It is effective. Use it every time you go outside.

Plan to use native plants and native seeds.

Plan to reduce your lawn area and mow less (less work ☺)

Mow your lawn higher

Plan to stretch blooms from Spring to Fall.

Go to our Facebook page - Pollinator Pathways NH – we will be posting resources for Spring planning and planting.



The spring news that is not good is that the ticks have hatched. They are earlier than ever. The quote from UNH is "Time to dig out that bottle of Permethrin and hose down the wood clothes. The ticks are already back in force." People who work outdoors a lot have 'woods/garden clothes'. Wash 'woods/garden' clothes with Permethrin and just keep them unwashed ready to go outdoors. Sounds pretty primitive but it works. Otherwise use bug repellent- a lot.

So with apologies for having to cancel our March and April programs we encourage you find information online and enjoy the Spring that is rapidly approaching.

Also keep in mind that towns have nature trails and forest trails that are a great spot to walk and relax and get outdoors when being in the public space doesn't seem the thing to do.

Marghi Bean
Kingston Conservation and Pollinator Pathways NH

Restoring Habitat, One Yard at a Time