



*Restoring Habitat, One Yard at a Time*

March 2024

Hello Everyone,

We're at that time of year when the sky is blue and beautiful! The sun is bright. It may be beautiful, but when you go outside and it's still 31 degrees!



The temperatures are very 'winter' right now. I think everyone is yearning for spring, but we need to wait until it is 'real' spring.

A few thoughts on getting ready for warm weather:

If the past few years are a guide, we will have warm weather (60s +) for a few days. We'll want to get out a rake and DO something! Unfortunately it's only false spring, and the temps will drop and we'll have more frosts...yet again.

We need to be good neighbors to all the little creatures that are sleeping through the winter. There are caterpillars under the leaves and mulch. There are native bees nesting in the woody flower stalks. One of the many fascinating facts about pollinators is that some caterpillars freeze solid, then defrost in the spring. (Nature is amazing) But we must wait until we have temperatures in the 70s for at least 5 to 10 days.

Also, this is still prime time to plant native seeds. Go outside and scuff the seeds into the snow in a spot of your choosing. Most native seeds have a tough, impervious covering, and they need the freeze and thaw cycle to soften and germinate, a process called scarification. So plant your seeds directly outside or in pots out of doors.

The following Wild Seed Project videos are helpful and informative.



<https://wildseedproject.net/2016/11/ideal-time-for-sowing-native-seeds/>

<https://wildseedproject.net/how-to-grow-natives-from-seed/>



Even though we gave out 100s of packs of seeds at our November seed exchange, so many folks brought seed to us this year, that we have a lot of seed left. If your town has a seed library and you are able to pick up in Kingston, we can supply you with many types of seed. A friend recently introduced us as the "Johnny Appleseed" of pollinator plant seeds in NH.

All year, native pollinator plant seed is available at the Seed Library at the Kingston Community Library, free

for the taking whether you live here in town or not. We also have vegetable seeds to choose from.

Look for the big Seed Library re-opening event

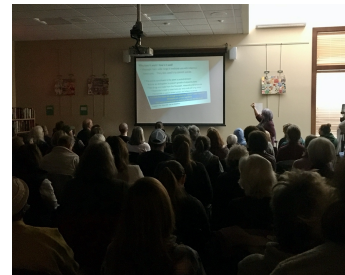


in March or April.

### Past Events:

**On February 10th** Dr. Vicki Motz presented a program about how native pollinator plants were used for herbal medicines by the Abenaki people. It was a fascinating, and very new way to see these plants. Vicki's lecture was so well attended that it was standing room only.

Enjoy the following video if you weren't able to be there:



<https://www.facebook.com/pollinatorpathwaysnh/videos/10927305193410>

**On February 14th** PPNH visited the Greenland NH Conservation Commission. Happily, they voted to partner with us in the work to restore Pollinator Habitat. *Welcome Greenland!* You are the fourteenth town to join Pollinator Pathways NH through a Conservation Commission.

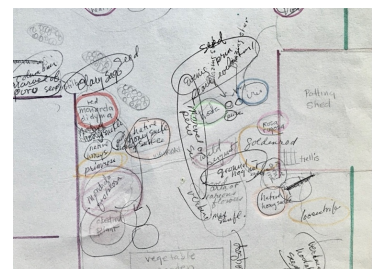
### Coming Up!

**March 16th**

**DESIGN A POLLINATOR GARDEN PLAN**

**HANDS-ON WORK SESSION** with Patty Davidson

**REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT THROUGH NATURE GROUPE IS MANDATORY** due to space limitations.



Patty has been practicing ecological landscaping since 1994. She earned a horticulture degree from the University of New Hampshire, is a New Hampshire Certified Landscape Professional and an Accredited Organic Land Care Professional. Draw a sketch of your garden, or a pollinator garden for a public space in your town, and join us at the Kingston Community Library on the morning of March 16 (snow date March 23) at 10:00 for a walk-through of important points for planning a pollinator garden, followed by a hands-on think-tank work session with 3 experts, and a general sharing of knowledge.

As always, free native plant seed is available to all at the Library's Seed Library. Refreshments, coffee and tea will be offered.

March 16, 10:00-12:00

Snow date: March 23

Kingston Community Library,  
2 Library Lane, Kingston, NH



**sign up here:**

<https://naturegroupie.org/experiences/design-pollinator-garden-hands-work-session>

For upcoming events and news follow us on FaceBook

<https://www.facebook.com/pollinatorpathwaysnh/>

Looking forward to Spring,

Marghi Bean, Chair

Pollinator Pathways NH

