



Restoring Habitat, One Yard at a Time

November - December 2022

Hello Everyone,

It has been a while since I've been able to compose a letter to you. Life has been very crazy for my husband and me. We've moved from the old farmhouse where we lived for 47 years, and are just now stumping the new building lot and really getting into the 'build a new house' process. It's an adventure to say the least.



The biggest event for Pollinator Pathways NH for the past four years has been our Seed Swap/Giveaway. It is so much fun! It is fun to talk to all of you, and it provides an affirmation that Pollinators Pathways NH is making a difference. All of you who were at the swaps will spread the idea (as well as seeds) of planting native, and by doing so, you'll be restoring pollinator habitat "one yard at a time". It's a wonderful thing. Thank you for believing that one person can make a difference in the fight to save pollinators.

The drought this summer was discouraging. The growing time needed for the plants to go to seed varied a lot from the usual timeline. The best example for me were the black eyed susans, usually flowering for most of the summer – they came and went really quickly – literally dried up and blew away. As a late bloomer, asters were hit in the same way. Some late summer rain showers finally made them pop, but they were not as abundant as they usually are.



Most seem to agree that global warming is the culprit in these weather pattern changes. It doesn't look as though we're going to see improvement, so we need to garden with climate change in mind. Soaker hoses come to mind, and lots of careful and natural mulching, but I am no expert. I've been digging through the many amazing websites that are available to help us. The following are a few of the best sites I've found:

- For information on the pollinator 'hows and whys' you can't beat Ohio State University. They have spring and fall webinars that are fabulous. Five amazing webinars are included in their Pollinator

Habitat 101 series. You can view them with the following link at no cost. Highly recommended!
Go to <https://u.osu.edu/pollinators101/recordings/>

- For gardening help from a friendly neighbor UNH extension, the UNH Extension Services offer information and help on many topics: Natural Resources, Gardens and Agriculture
- Master gardeners are available to help you with many garden problems.
- Ruth Smith is the Master Gardener program Manager. - ruthsmith@unh.edu
- It's November and we're all planning for Spring already, one of winter's delights is dreaming of spring gardening.
- A great site to read while snowbound is the Wild Seed Project site. They're just over the border in Maine, and have a great website loaded with information beyond the native seeds that they sell. Find them at: <https://wildseedproject>
- For thoughtful essays Nancy Lawson is a writer worth reading <https://www.humanegardener.com/when-plants-protect-plants/>
- One of her best essays is 'Grounded and Surrounded'. <https://www.humanesociety.org/news/grounded-and-surrounded>
- When we get past the holidays, the snow and the cold, Bedrock Gardens is the place to go and be renewed in the spring. Perhaps the best kept secret in Rockingham County, it's a wonderful place to walk around, relax and be inspired. www.bedrockgardens.org



An ongoing project here in Kingston is the restoration of the Recreation Department's pollinator garden. We're thinking along the lines of an "Adopt A Garden" and are looking for willing folks or businesses to help return this garden to its former self. Donating time, materials or money are all acceptable ways to help the garden and keep it from becoming an extension of the Rec's parking lot. Can you help? Contact Marghi at marghi3maples@gmail.com for more details

It's Thanksgiving. Seems impossible that a whole year has flown by again! We're grateful for you all and for our many partner towns and garden clubs, and for our inspired liaisons, our hard-working core group, and for you. So may your perennials have a nice winter's nap. May your seeds enjoy a satisfying stratification. May the monarchs reach Michoacán, and may you stay well to be able to help save our planet and its many creatures, great and small!

Warm regards,
Marghi Bean Chair- Pollinator Pathways NH
Evy Nathan Co-Chair-Pollinator Pathways NH



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