

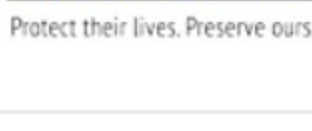
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Bee Friendly Gardening

A Program of Pollinator Partnership

December 2024



Keep Pests Out of the Home

Learn how to keep nuisance pests, like stink bugs, out of the home this winter

By Suzanne Bontempo of [Plant Harmony](#)

Autumn is a time for bringing sweaters to the front of the closet, pulling out the warm blankets, and switching the heaters on as the temperatures outside begin to drop. We're not the only ones that like to stay warm and cozy during the colder season; many of us battle with unwanted guests in the form of ladybugs, spiders, stink bugs, and other nuisance pests who also enjoy the comforts of a warm, dry home.



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Mississippi River Operation Pollination Partnership

By Chris Stein, National Park Service, [Operation Pollination](#), and BFG Member

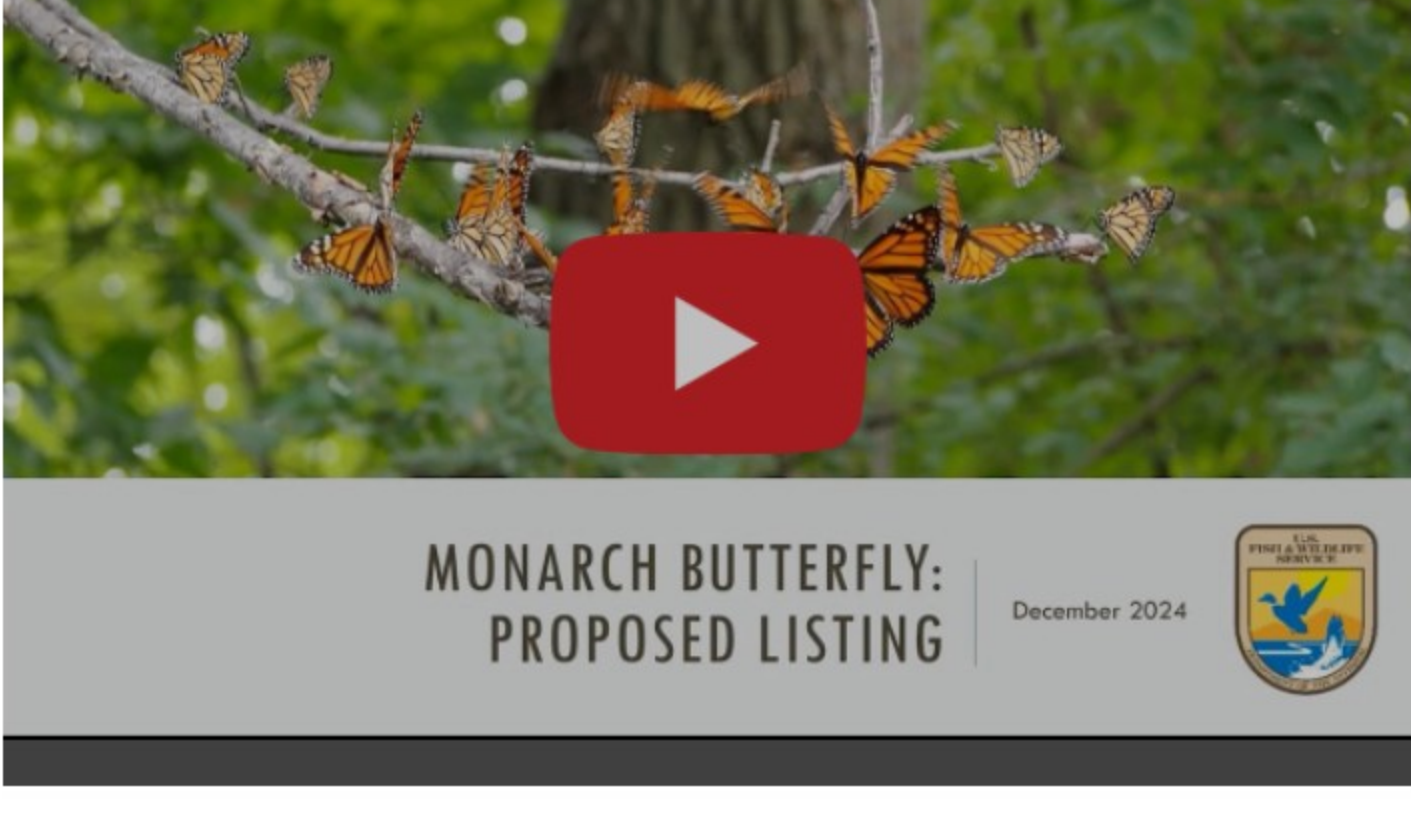


As BFG members, you know that the Bee Friendly Gardening Program is inclusive of all pollinator species, not just bees. A budding collaborative project that demonstrates this is the Mississippi River Operation Pollination Partnership (MROPP), whose goal is to establish pollinator spaces up and down the entire length of the Mississippi River, from Lake Itasca in Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico in Louisiana. This includes pollinator habitat spaces for all pollinators, from the regal monarch butterfly to buzzing bees who pollinate our food crops.

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The Monarch Butterfly is Proposed to be Listed Under the Endangered Species Act

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has announced a proposed rule to list the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), accompanied by a [4\(d\) rule](#) and [critical habitat](#) designation. [Read their announcement](#) and watch this video:



Still want to know more? Join the [BFG Facebook page](#) and watch for daily updates about the proposed monarch listing during the final week of December, and read this article for more information.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

A Holiday Gift for You:

Winter Poetry



[Your Gift](#)

Pollinator Steward Certification

Early Bird Registration Ends Soon

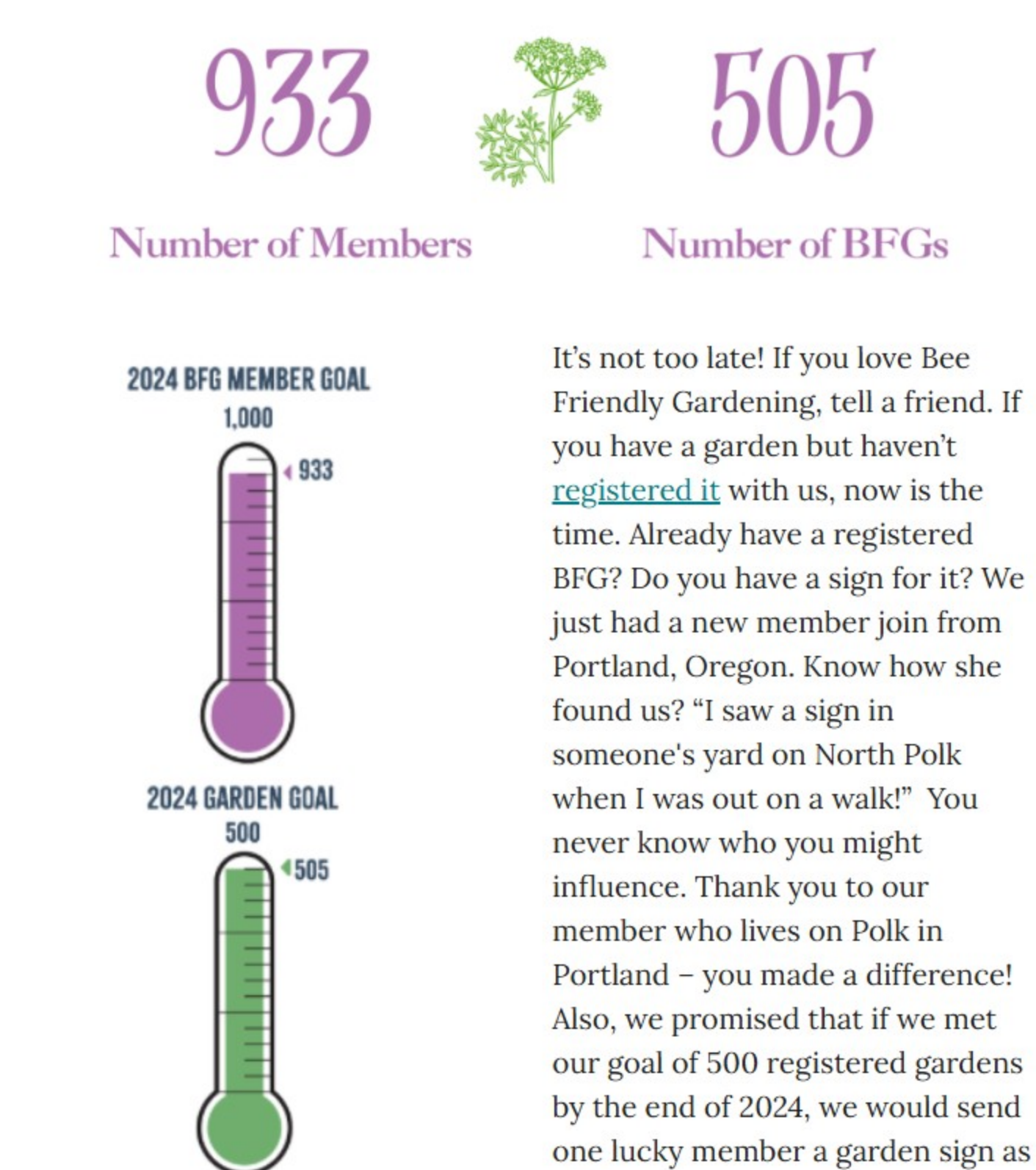


Early Bird registration for our Pollinator Steward Certification (PSC) training ends on December 31st. There are [limited spaces](#) so register today to reserve your spot in this educational program offered only by Pollinator Partnership. PSC empowers people with the scientific know-how to make a real difference for pollinators, people, and the planet. This course is ideal for home gardeners, land managers (large and small), farmers, organizations, government departments, and anyone that wants to do more to support pollinators. Join our growing community of Certified Pollinator Stewards!

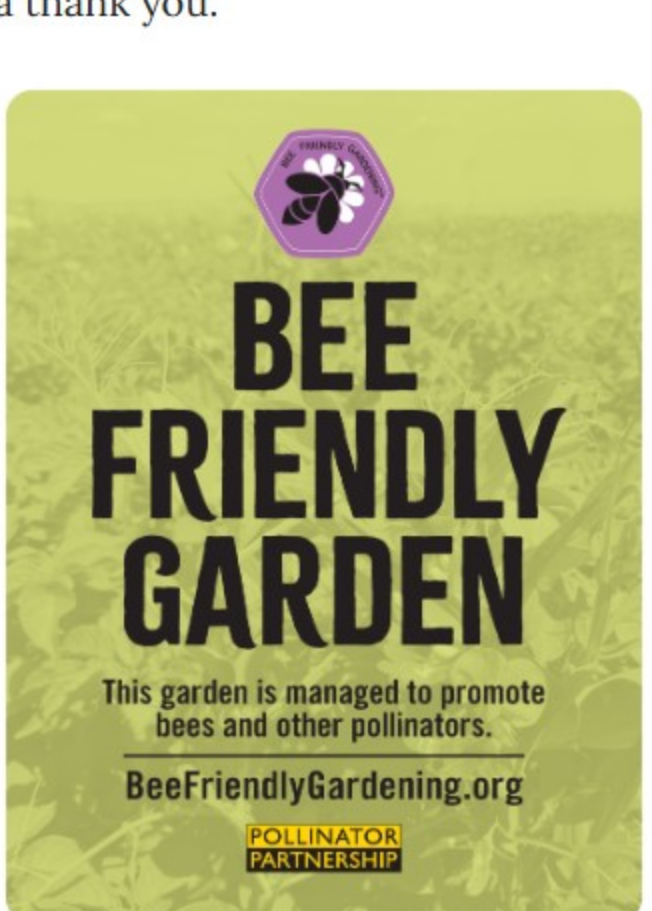
[Register](#)

We Did It!

We are ending 2024 with more than 500 registered Bee Friendly Gardens!



We are so proud to report that we reached our goal. There are now 505 of you with Pollinator Partnership registered Bee Friendly Gardens! We would be so thrilled if every one of you sported a BFG sign letting your neighbors know why you do what you do. Once you register your garden, you will receive a link to purchase the sign. We want to get photos of your gorgeous BFGs with our official sign in them, so get your sign now, get it installed, and be ready to take those photos once things start blooming in 2025.



Carol Jasin - keep an eye on your mailbox, as we have a sign coming your way. It sure will look great in your Ohio BFG!

(Photo is of a monarch butterfly caterpillar in Carol Jasin's Bee Friendly Garden.)

Thank you from Sara Wittenberg, your Bee Friendly Gardening Manager

A portrait photograph of Sara Wittenberg, a woman with long brown hair wearing a grey baseball cap and a white shirt.

Notable Dates:

- December 21 - Winter Solstice
- January 1 - New Year
- January 5 - National Bird Day
- January 25 - National Seed Swap Day

Bee Friendly Gardening is for Every Landscape!
Be a part of the Bee Friendly movement.



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