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Bee Friendly Gardening

A Program of Pollinator Partnership

July 2024



Pollinator Friendly Weed Control Tips for the Home Gardener

By Sean Rustemeyer of Soil 'N Green Landscaping



As we head into July, the gardening season comes into full swing and the age-old battle of "Gardener vs. Weeds" renews. In our home gardens, there are many options for weed control and the products and techniques we choose will have an impact on pollinator health. Pollination is an important ecosystem service that is estimated to be necessary for the reproduction of more than 80% of total plant species and 35% of global crop production. As they have such a critical role to play, it's important that we make decisions that support pollinators.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

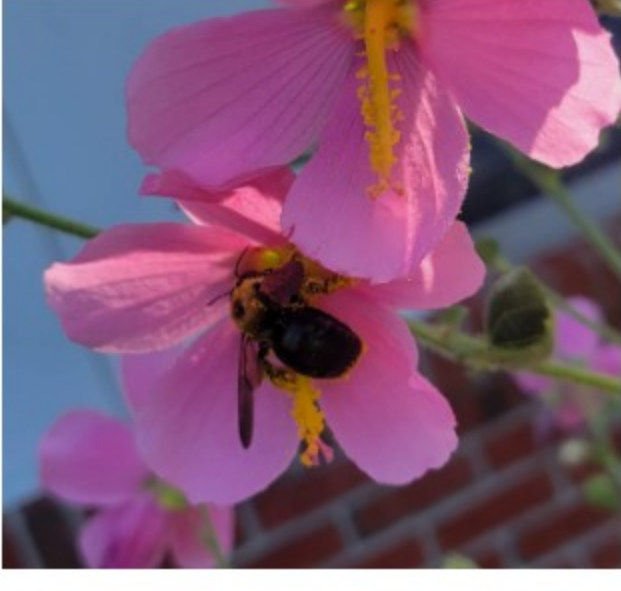
The 2024 Great Southeast Pollinator Census

On August 23rd and 24th, community members across Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Florida will join to count pollinators as part of the sixth annual [Great Southeast Pollinator Census](#).



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BFG Member Sandra Anastasio participated in her first Great Southeast Pollinator Census in 2023, the first year it was available to participate in North Carolina, via the NC Extension Master GardenerSM volunteers of Harnett County. "The resources provided by the GSePC are great and include everything you need to plan an event or count at home! Don't be afraid that you won't know the types of insects that are counted...the resources are easy to understand and easy to teach others, even kids, who can be the best pollinator ambassadors. I have a new appreciation of carpenter bees and the wonderful pollinators they are, thanks to the census. The picture is of a carpenter bee that is covered in pollen! We have planned two events again this year and are excited to share the beauty and importance of pollinators."



Bee Friendly Gardening Photo Contest

Have you [registered your BFG](#)? If so, you are eligible to purchase a sign to show off your hard work and raise awareness for pollinators. We want photos of the Bee Friendly Garden sign in beautiful gardens, so we are hosting a photo contest! The winner will receive a [BFG hat and three gorgeous posters](#), and submitted photos will be used in our publications in the coming months. **Please email your photos to bfg@pollinator.org.**

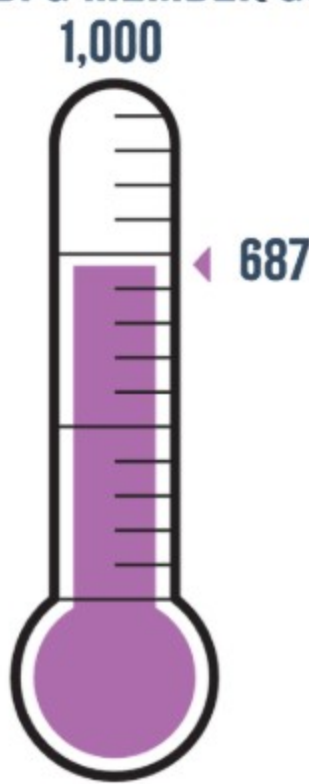


We are more than halfway to our goal! Can you help?

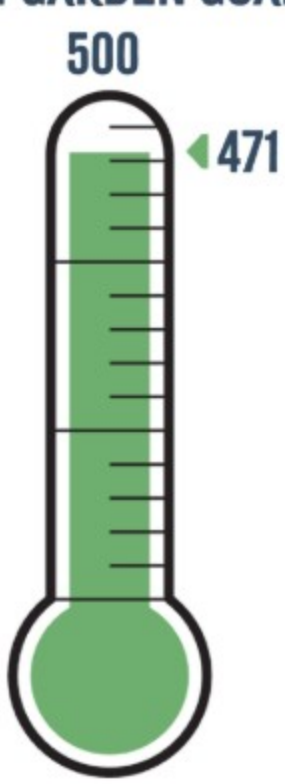
We set a goal to recruit 1000 BFG Members and 500 registered gardens by the end of 2024. As we enter the second half of the year, we are proud to report we are over halfway there!



2024 BFG MEMBER GOAL



2024 GARDEN GOAL



You can help us reach our goal of recruiting more people to help pollinators by spreading the word. Remember, your [member badge](#) is a great tool and conversation starter. Don't forget - if someone joins BFG and says they found us through you, you will be entered to win a free BFG hat. Just ask Cathy Shonk, who referred a friend to us last month - thank you Cathy! Tell all of your friends and family about us, and maybe you can win a hat too!

Want to do even more to support Bee Friendly Gardening?

The Catalyst Fund, A Matching Gift Campaign

Pollinator Partnership's (P2) founding employee, Laurie Davies Adams, has generously created a foundational legacy with a gift match donation of \$50,000. After 28 years, Laurie will be stepping back from staff duties while remaining on the Board of Directors.



Her vision is that this matching gift will generate new funds for P2, ensuring long-term support for pollinators. Every first-time or increased donation made or pledged now through December 31, 2024 will be matched dollar-for-dollar. Once met, Pollinator Partnership will have \$100,000 in unrestricted funds that will be used for all of our programs including Bee Friendly Gardening, Bee Friendly Farming, Project Wingspan, and more. Please join Laurie to grow the Catalyst Fund - Creating a strong foundation for a brighter future. [Click here](#) to learn more or to donate to the Catalyst Fund.

Thank you from Sara Wittenberg, your Bee Friendly Gardening Coordinator.



Notable Dates:

- July 22-30 [National Moth Week](#)
- August 17 - National Nonprofit Day (support your favorite nonprofit with an [additional donation](#))

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



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