

## STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Texas is overflowing with wildlife beauty, from the blooming Texas bluebonnets along our highways to the flourishing pecan trees surrounding our rivers and streams. Our state flower and tree, however, account for only a small part of the native plant population, wildlife habitats, crop production, and ecosystems, all of which are reliant on pollinating species. The biodiversity and wellbeing of wildlife habitats across Texas are thanks to pollinators.

The foundations of the Texas ecosystem thrive because of our pollinating species, including bats, bees, ants, beetles, butterflies, flies, hummingbirds, moths, and wasps. Pollen is essential for maintaining the growth of various native wildflowers like the bluebonnet and agricultural products like cotton and melons that are true to Texas. As keystone species, pollinators also provide important food and shelter resources for wildlife, including birds, reptiles, and mammals found across the state.

The agricultural industry in Texas heavily relies on pollinators, including the thousand-plus bee species in our state. Without pollinators, our state would not only suffer economic consequences, but the ecosystem would change drastically. The protection of pollinators is essential to state wildlife since they serve the overall wellbeing of Texas' environment.

Each year, a week in June is set aside to recognize the importance of pollinators in the Lone Star State. Throughout Texas, individuals, organizations, and communities work to educate the public about the unseen yet valuable work of our state's pollinators and how they contribute to our state.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about how pollinators contribute to the native plants, agriculture, and wildlife that we enjoy across the state and to learn the different ways you can care for pollinator species in your own backyard.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim June 16-22, 2025, to be

## **Pollinator Week**



in Texas and urge all Texans to observe the occasion with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature this the 14th day of March, 2025.

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Governor of Texas