



THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK
June 17-23
PROCLAMATION

Pollinators are a crucial part of the ecosystems. With one-third of the nation's food supply depending on pollinators, it is critical that they are protected. Many types of plants, especially crops, depend on pollinators, which may include a variety of birds, mammals and insects, some of which are federally listed threatened or endangered species.

There are many factors, including pesticides, that can contribute to declines in the health of some pollinator species. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is concerned about declines in the health of some pollinators and is working every day to protect pollinators from the potential effects of pesticides. With many pesticides targeting insect pests, the EPA works to implement mitigation measures for pesticides that protect nontarget pollinator populations, including those that belong to federally listed species.

Over the years the EPA has taken many steps to address potential effects of pesticides on pollinators. The agency last year proposed to register four new pesticide active ingredients that include protections for federally listed species, including pollinators. The EPA has also implemented conservation measures to protect these species and their designated critical habitats from the effects of three organophosphate insecticides based on biological opinions issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

The EPA released a draft strategy in July 2023 describing early mitigations for more than 900 federally listed species and critical habitats to reduce potential impacts from the agricultural use of herbicides while helping to ensure the continued availability of these important pesticides. The EPA will finalize the strategy this year, which will prioritize minimizing impacts to the listed plants species on which pollinators rely. Additionally in 2024, the EPA will release a draft strategy for minimizing the impacts of insecticides to listed insect species, many of which are pollinators.

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of the importance of pollinators to healthy ecosystems and sustainable, diverse agriculture, I, Michael S. Regan, Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, do hereby proclaim June 17-23, 2024, as National Pollinator Week at the EPA. I call upon the people of the United States to join me in celebrating the significance of pollinators with appropriate observances and activities.


Michael S. Regan