

## **Legislative Update** (cont.)

The fate of the neonicotinoid section of the bill was not so fortunate. Although the bill sailed through the Environment Committee and the Legislative Commissioner's Office, the Senate amended the bill by creating a working group consisting of DEEP, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, the Connecticut Grounds Keepers Association, the Connecticut Pest Control Association, the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Friends of the Earth, Pollinators Pathway, and the Connecticut Beekeeper's Association. This group would meet and make a determination by January 1, 2023. However, when the amended bill got to the House on the very last day of the session, result of last minute discussions was to eliminate the neonicotinoid section of the bill altogether. Thus, there will be action on neonicotinoids this year.

As disappointing as this is, we are aware that the issue gained much attention and was widely supported by the public and many in the legislature. We should be in a good position for 2023's session. Thanks to all who may have called your legislators and/or supported this effort in any way. We are also grateful to the strong leadership in the Environment Committee and also our own representatives, Mitch Bolinski and Tony Hwang for their support.