

EXPERIENCE THE BUZZ

The Importance of Pollinators

Without pollinators, the human race and all of earth's terrestrial ecosystems would not survive. Of the 1,400 crop plants grown around the world, i.e., those that produce all of our food and plant-based industrial products, almost 80% require pollination by animals. Visits from bees and other pollinators also result in larger, more flavorful fruits and higher crop yields. In the United States alone, pollination of agricultural crops is valued at 10 billion dollars annually. Globally, pollination services are likely worth more than 3 trillion dollars.





Pollination

<u>Pollination</u> occurs when <u>birds</u>, <u>bees</u>, <u>bats</u>, <u>butterflies</u>, <u>moths</u>, <u>beetles</u>, <u>other animals</u>, water, or the wind carries pollen from flower to flower or it is moved within flowers. The successful transfer of pollen in and between flowers of the same plant species leads to fertilization, successful seed development, and fruit production

Vanishing Pollinators

Many of these pollinators are vanishing. Climate change, habitat destruction, and industrial farming are wiping out species at an alarming rate.

What can you do? Leave your land undeveloped. Consider growing a pollinator garden (with plants like Lady Phacelia, Yarrow and California Poppy). Do not purchase plants treated with harmful pesticides.