



## Conserve and Celebrate A World of Pollinators!

### State and Federal Governments Work Together for 4<sup>th</sup> Annual National Pollinator Week June 21-27<sup>th</sup> 2010

**San Francisco** - With one out of every third bite of food we humans consume dependant on bees and other animals for reproduction; our future truly flies on the wings of pollinators. Protecting these hardworking heroes is crucial and the impetus for National Pollinator Week, which begins Monday,

June 21 in the United States, Canada, Mexico and around the globe.

Colony Collapse Disorder, while slightly, still continues to plague honey bees, stump researchers and be a major concern to agricultural community. And honey bees are not the only pollinators in peril; bumble bee species in the East and the West also are vanishing from their customary habitats. Loss of pollinator habitat was a major cause identified by the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council's study of pollinators. By planting for pollinators we can rebuild pollinator habitat and make a significant, positive impact on the survival rates for honey bees and other pollinators. Whether urban or rural, pollinators obtain the vital nectar, pollen, and nesting resources they need to thrive from key plant species. Mostly native, these important plants are critical for survival and can be incorporated easily into nearly all landscapes.

"A World of Pollinators" is our theme for 2010 National Pollinator Week. All over the world animals as diverse as bats, as plentiful as bees, and as beautiful as butterflies, are enabling flowering plant reproduction in a vital ecosystem service that supports food networks. In fact, its fragility is evidenced by the worrisome rapid decrease or disappearance of key pollinators in numerous locations around the globe. The time for action to promote and protect pollinators is NOW, and everyone can play a role in insuring survival and nurturing growth.

The US Secretary of Agriculture was joined by more than 30 State Governors who have signed state proclamations to promote POLLINATOR WEEK last year, and the goal for 2010 is for participation in all 50 states for informative events. Schools, corporations, garden clubs, nature centers and government groups sponsor events which teach pollinator-friendly practices and raise public awareness about the importance of birds, bees, bats, beetles, butterflies, moths and even certain flies and all pollinating species. Pollinator Week activities will be created across the country by many NAPPC partners including Bat Conservation International, Monarch Joint Venture and the North American Butterfly Association to promote its July 4<sup>th</sup> Butterfly Count. National Pollinator Week includes some new and fun outreach elements for 2010. **They include the free poster pictured above, free pollinator ringtones, education wheels and more.**

National Pollinator Week is a project of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign ([www.napppc.org](http://www.napppc.org)), which is managed by the Pollinator Partnership. To learn more, visit [http://www.pollinator.org/pollinator\\_week\\_2010.htm](http://www.pollinator.org/pollinator_week_2010.htm) .

The Pollinator Partnership is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works to protect the health of managed and native pollinating animals vital to our North American ecosystems and agriculture. To join the P2 action team, make a donation or learn more about us, please visit [www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org).