



Bee Friendly Gardening™ Newsletter

A program of Pollinator Partnership

Dear Sara

August reminds us that every bloom still matters. While some flowers begin to fade, many pollinators are still actively gathering the nectar and pollen they need to prepare for the seasons ahead. By keeping your garden blooming with late-season flowers, watering during dry spells, and leaving natural spaces undisturbed, you're providing essential habitat when it's needed most. Every visit from a bee, butterfly, or hummingbird is a sign that your garden is making a difference.

Keep the blooms coming,



Sara Wittenberg
Bee Friendly Gardening Manager
Pollinator Partnership

Every Garden Has a Story. Every Badge Tells One.

Collect Your Garden Story

Every Bee Friendly Gardening badge represents another step in your pollinator journey. Now you can celebrate each achievement with a durable vinyl sticker made just for members.



Each time you earn a badge, you'll unlock the opportunity to purchase its matching weatherproof vinyl sticker (\$3 each). Stick them on your [Bee Friendly Gardening water bottle](#) (\$25.99), laptop, cooler, field notebook, or wherever you show your love for pollinators. Earn more badges. Add more stickers. Grow your collection.

Whether you've just planted your first garden or completed every challenge, every sticker represents a milestone you've earned.

Apply for Badges

These stickers are only available after you've earned the corresponding badge. You must [apply for the badge first](#), then once you are approved you can order the sticker!

Build Your Collection

Five badges.
Five stickers.
[One awesome bottle.](#)

Show Your Impact

Take your pollinator story wherever you go.

Badge Spotlight: Join Me

Six badges. Six ways to make a bigger impact for pollinators.



You already earned it—now put it to work!

Every Bee Friendly Gardening member receives the Join Me badge in their welcome packet. This badge is designed to help you spread the word and invite others to become part of the movement to protect pollinators.

Add it wherever you have a digital presence:

In your email signature

On Facebook or other social media profiles

In posts about your garden

On your website or blog

Anywhere you can share an image!

Every time someone sees your badge, they're reminded that creating pollinator habitat is something anyone can do. Your personal recommendation is one of the most powerful ways to inspire others to join Bee Friendly Gardening. And to sweeten your contribution - in September we will choose one person at random to win a BFG water bottle! Each time you share your badge, screenshot and email it to bfg@pollinator.org for an entry into the drawing.

Collect them all! Share your Join Me badge this month and help grow our community—one conversation at a time.

Get Your Badge



THE SHAGGIFICATION OF BRITAIN: REWILDING A NATION ONE LAWN AT A TIME

Ken has advocated for wildlife-friendly gardening in *The New York Times*. He'll talk to us about how American lawns originated in Britain, the emerging No Mow May Movement in the U.K., and his work trying to shaggify his own Scottish village by helping to organize a shaggy lawn competition.

Tuesday September 22, 2026
8PT/10CT/11ET
Must Register to Receive Link

MEMBER
WEBINAR

[Ken Ilgunas](#) is an author, journalist, and backcountry ranger in Alaska. He has hitchhiked ten thousand miles across North America, paddled one thousand miles across Ontario in a birchbark canoe, and walked 1,700 miles across the Great Plains, following the proposed route of the Keystone XL pipeline. He's written for the [New York Times](#) (the article that prompted this webinar!), *Adventure Journal*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. His adventures and books have been featured on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *The New Yorker*, *National Geographic*, and *NPR*. He has a B.A. from SUNY Buffalo in history and English, and an M.A. in liberal studies from Duke. He is the author of travel memoirs *Walden on Wheels* and *Trespassing Across America*, and advocacy book, *This Land Is Our Land*. He is the host of the adventure and travel podcast—"Out of the Wild." He is from Wheatfield, New York, and is presently living in Scotland.

Register Here

Pollinator Steward Certification + Bee Friendly Gardening

Two Pollinator Partnership Programs That Go Hand In Hand!



Michelle H. of Toronto is a certified Pollinator Steward, having completed her certification process by building a Bee Friendly Garden!

"I really enjoyed this part of the program. It was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the transformation of my Toronto garden into a native pollinator habitat and the outreach work I've been doing within my community and through Restory Farm & Studio. The process reinforced just how much meaningful habitat can be created, even on a relatively small urban property. It's been incredibly rewarding to see the space evolve into a place that supports pollinators while also becoming a demonstration garden where neighbours, friends and local children can learn about the importance of native plants and biodiversity.

Thank you to you and the entire Pollinator Partnership team for creating such a thoughtful and inspiring program. I've learned a tremendous amount, and I'm excited to continue building on this work and encouraging others to create habitat in their own communities."

Join PSC

Register Your BFG

From Backyard Gardens to Community Impact: How Pollinator Academy Is Growing a Pollinator-Friendly Brazoria County

Kimberly Mayer, CEA, CPTM County Extension Agent - Horticulture Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service



When you hear the word pollinator, you probably picture a honey bee buzzing from flower to flower. While that image is familiar, pollinators are much more diverse, and protecting them is something every gardener can do. Whether you have a large property, a small backyard, or a few containers on a patio, you can make a difference.

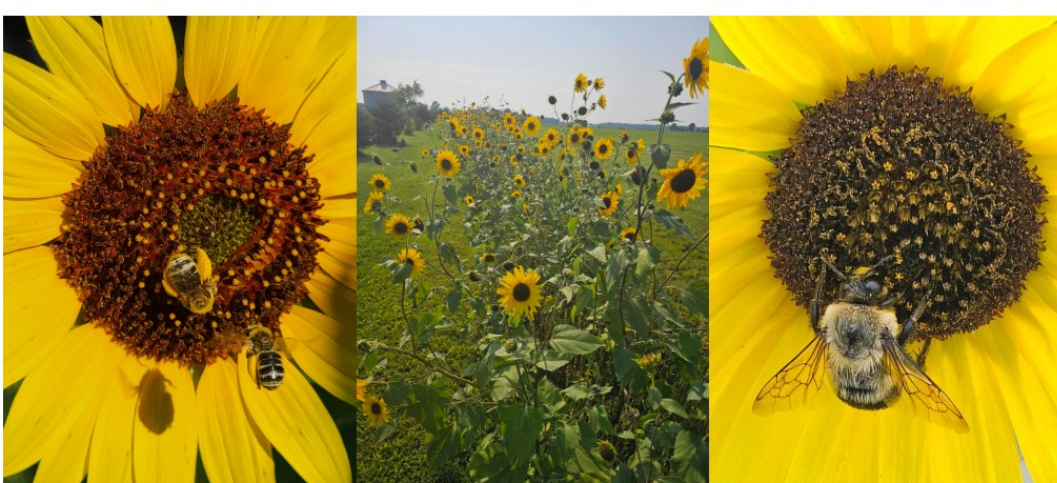
That simple idea inspired Pollinator Academy, a new educational program hosted by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension in Brazoria County.

Read Article

My Favorite Native Plant

Terri Eden

My favorite native plants here on Bell Family Farm (<https://bellfamilyfarmestate.com>) are sunflowers. While the perennial Maximilian sunflower holds a special place in my heart as an absolute favorite, I love all of our sunflower varieties because of their incredible resilience and the vital role they play in our ecosystem's life cycles. They are absolute magnets for a wide variety of pollinators, and I have personally observed bees, butterflies, songbirds, local wildlife, and many of our farm animals as well thriving on them throughout the season and then using them as habitat in the off season.



Notable Dates

- August 15 - National Honey Bee Day
- August 17 - National Nonprofit Day
- September - National Honey Month
- September 4 - National Wildlife Day fixed
- September 5 - National Hummingbird Day
- September 22 - Fall Equinox
- September 26 - [National Public Lands Day](#)
- September 28 - National Good Neighbor Day: Want to increase your impact? Involve your neighbors! Check out our fairly new [Guide to Guides for Residential Communities](#) and our [Ambassador Toolkit](#)!

Interested in writing an article for BFG?

We're always looking for content for our recurring columns "My Favorite Native Plant/Pollinator" [Tell us about your favorite native plant, why you love it, and what pollinators love it.] and "How Many Host Plants?" [Highlight what host plants you have included in your garden, as well as the pollinators that they support.]. We would love to feature you in an upcoming BFG newsletter! Simply email your response, along with a photo if possible, to bfg@pollinator.org.

Bee Friendly Gardening is for Every Landscape!

Be a part of the Bee Friendly movement.

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