

## STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

June 5, 2024

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the citizens of Maine, I write this letter in support of Pollinator Week, which is recognized during the week of June 17-23, 2024.

Pollinator species, such as birds and insects are essential partners of farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply. Pollination also plays a vital role in the health of our forests and grasslands which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities.

Pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy, biodiverse ecosystems. The State of Maine is proud to provide producers with conservation assistance to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on working lands and wildlands.

As Governor, I encourage all Maine people to recognize the importance of pollinators to our food supply, economy, and global sustainability and to demonstrate sustainable practices in support of pollinator health and habitat in Maine.

Thank you,

Janet T. Mills Governor