

POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP

MEDIA RELEASE

June 17, 2019

Kelly Rourke KR@pollinator.org 415.362.1137
Tom Van Arsdall TVA@pollinator.org 703.509.4746

Saving the Bees and the Butterflies is Topic ONE across the Planet During International Pollinator Week

In Nairobi, Beijing, Paris, Washington, DC and Boise and beyond, activities from bee house building to farm and winery walks are taking center stage this week to raise awareness of the importance and the plight of the world's pollinators. Bees, butterflies, birds, and beetles that support 90% of flowering plants – including over 1000 crop plants that humans rely on for their food, are facing threatened futures that require immediate human intervention. Across the planet, celebrations, planting sessions, garden and farm walks and marches mark **Pollinator Week 2019 (June 17-23)**, the thirteenth consecutive year of bringing greater awareness to the critically important issue of pollinator conservation. **Pollinator Partnership (P2)**, which founded **Pollinator Week** in 2007, announced today that **ALL 50 state governors** and many mayors, have signed proclamations supporting the observance of National Pollinator Week. In addition, **a record breaking number of events across North America (over 280)** have been organized and registered through P2's Pollinator Week. Even more unregistered events are happening globally due to growing concern about the viability of ecosystem services that pollinators provide.

Laurie Davies Adams, President and CEO of Pollinator Partnership, noted that "As we celebrate Pollinator Week throughout the globe, we continue to focus on the vulnerability of the pollinators that contribute so significantly to the biodiversity of wildlands and working landscapes. Pollinator Week gets people talking and **acting** – making sure that every landscape is shared with pollinating species everywhere and that we provide habitat, eliminate all chemical impacts, and reduce the pathogens, parasites, and climate challenges that contribute to the deaths of pollinating species."

Pollinators bring us 1 in 3 bites of food; promote ecosystem health; and lay the foundation for a sustainable future. While we are seeing some signs of the benefits of conservation efforts, many species of pollinators are in grave peril. Communities throughout the world celebrate Pollinator Week by organizing local events such as native plants sales, beekeeping classes, pollinator themed meals or mixers, and more! As a result of P2's coordination, eleven major US and Canadian landmarks will be lit up in pollinator colors this week including **The Baltimore City Hall, San Francisco City Hall, and Niagara Falls**. In addition, P2 will be co-hosting a variety of events in Washington, D.C., including a Congressional briefing held by the **Congressional Pollinator Protection Caucus**, and a reception at the **American Society of Landscape Architects** headquarters, with its inspiring rooftop garden as a focal point. And on June 21, P2 will participate in the **Big Day of Giving**, and everyone in North America can, too! More information is at <http://www.pollinator.org/pollinatorweek>.

#####

ABOUT POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP (P2)

Established in 1997, the Pollinator Partnership is the largest 501(c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to the health, protection, and conservation of all pollinating animals. P2's actions for pollinators include education, conservation, restoration, policy, and research. P2's financial support comes through grants, gifts, memberships and donations from any interested party. P2's policies are science-based, set by its board of directors, and never influenced by any donor. To make a donation or for information on events during Pollinator Week visit www.pollinator.org.