

# MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release



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## **Laurie Davies Adams Retires from Pollinator Partnership, to Remain on Organization's Board of Directors, Provides Matching Gift**

Effective June 30, 2024, Laurie Davies Adams has retired from the day-to-day operations of Pollinator Partnership but will continue to serve on Pollinator Partnership's Board of Directors. There are few who have done more to increase awareness of the importance of pollinators and influenced action for their protection than Laurie Davies Adams. Ms. Adams was the founding employee of Pollinator Partnership back in 1999, recognizing the necessity of an organized front against accelerating pollinator decline. Capping more than a quarter of a century leading the world's largest nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to pollinator issues, Ms. Adams leaves behind a legacy of collaboration and groundbreaking advancements for pollinator conservation initiatives.

Her achievements are numerous, far-reaching, and have set the stage for a new generation of pollinator conservation professionals. Under her direction, Pollinator Partnership began the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), a continent-wide initiative aimed at bringing together stakeholders from all sectors to collaborate on pollinator issues and elevate solutions to pollinator decline. This initiative has not only significantly raised the profile of pollinators in industry and federal governments, the 180 member organizations of NAPPC have worked together to put forth resources such as 64 Ecoregional Planting Guides, 21 educational brochures, and various pollinator

reference and identification guides. Under Ms. Adams' leadership, NAPPC has funneled millions of dollars to support much needed research into honey bees, bumble bees, butterflies, and moths, and launched the hugely successful annual pollinator poster series. Fourteen years ago, with the help of NAPPC member organizations, she co-founded National Pollinator Week, which the US Senate unanimously declared as the third week of June and is now an annual international celebration of pollinators and their roles in our lives.

Her fierce dedication to elevating the most comprehensive science on pollinator health and finding practical solutions to pollinator decline has enabled Pollinator Partnership to become the world's largest 501(c)(3) dedicated exclusively to pollinator issues, featuring a WHDP of more than 30 full-time staff members. Under her leadership, the nonprofit has administered numerous programs aimed at combating pollinator decline from every angle, including Project Wingspan, the BeeSmart School Garden Kit, Monarch Wings Across America, Bee Friendly Farming, Bee Friendly Gardening, and many more. Along with the hundreds of thousands of acres of habitat these programs have created, they have also instituted a newfound fascination with pollinators and an international reckoning of the essential role pollinators have in the economy, environment, and human health.

She leaves behind a legacy unparalleled in the pollinator space, and Pollinator Partnership is extremely grateful she will continue to lend her expertise through her role on the Pollinator Partnership board. Laurie is succeeded by Pollinator Partnership's long-time employee and former Director of Programs, Kelly Bills.

**As a parting gift, Ms. Adams has generously created a foundational legacy with a gift match donation of \$50,000, called the [Catalyst Fund](#).** Her vision is that this matching gift will generate new funds for Pollinator Partnership, ensuring long-term support for pollinators. Every first-time or increased donation made or pledged now through December 31, 2024 will be matched dollar-for-dollar. "I am so proud of Pollinator Partnership and have strong faith in its new leadership under Executive Director Kelly Bills," says Laurie Davies Adams. "The Catalyst Fund fulfills my fondest wish to give the organization a boost of unrestricted resources to continue to build on its phenomenal success in helping pollinators, plants, and people everywhere. Please join me in promoting this unique and extremely effective non-profit!"

**With \$20,000 left to reach our goal, now is the time to take advantage of this incredible opportunity. Please join Laurie to grow the Catalyst Fund - Creating a strong foundation for a brighter future.** Visit [pollinator.org/catalyst-fund](https://pollinator.org/catalyst-fund) for more information or to make a matching donation.

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#### **ABOUT POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP (P2)**

Established in 1997, Pollinator Partnership is the largest 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to the health, protection, and conservation of all pollinating animals. Kelly Bills is the Executive Director and manages Pollinator Partnership's actions for pollinators including education, conservation, restoration, policy, and research. Financial support comes through grants, gifts, memberships, and donations. Its policies are science-based, set by its board of directors, and never influenced by any donor.