



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

From enjoying seasonal fruits and vegetables to basking in the natural splendor of the Lone Star State during wildflower season, Texans benefit from the work of pollinators. These species, which are essential partners to farmers and ranchers and consist mostly of insects like bees, beetles, ants, and butterflies (but also include birds, bats, humming birds, and small mammals such as mice) play an essential role in the sustainability of our food supply and ecosystems and help ensure our future prosperity, not only in Texas, but across our nation and the world. The benefits of pollinators are diverse, and their benefits are felt throughout our food industry as well as the places we seek recreation and natural resources.

A significant part of our food supply is made up of crops that consist of flowering plants that depend on pollinators to reproduce. Without pollinators, these essential crops would not exist, and the production of many essential foods and resources, as well as the livelihoods of our ranchers and farmers, would be jeopardized. In the United States alone, \$20 billion worth of products produced annually depend on the pollination process carried out by honey bees and other insects. These products include resources beyond food, including fibers, spices, and medicines.

As key species to many ecosystems, pollinators are essential to maintaining the health and biodiversity of ecosystems and supporting the well-being of managed wildlife habitats and public lands, including state and national forests and grasslands. These precious environments provide timber, water, mineral resources, recreational opportunities, and enhanced economic development to communities across Texas, and rely on pollinators to maintain their habitats on working lands and wildlands. In order to ensure these ecosystems and our economy continue to prosper, we must protect these important species.

During June, a week is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of pollinators. Across Texas, individuals, organizations, and communities work to educate the public about the unseen labor of our invaluable pollinators and how they contribute to the future success of the Lone Star State.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about how pollinators maintain the food we eat and the land we love, as well as about the roles they play in supporting our daily lives. By ensuring the future of this state's pollinators, we can help build a better future for Texas for generations to come.


Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim June 21-27, 2021, to be

Pollinator Week



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
7th day of May, 2021.


Governor of Texas