

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

POLLINATOR WEEK

June 17-23, 2019

WHEREAS, agriculture is Pennsylvania's leading economic enterprise, generating \$74.5 billion in sales of agricultural food products and services; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's farms and businesses lead the way in the production of agricultural commodities, including pumpkins, apples, grapes, peaches, pears, and honey; and

WHEREAS, over 1,000 plants worldwide we depend on for food, spices, and medicine are pollinated thanks to the work of pollinators such as honey bees, monarch butterflies, and other pollinating insects and animals; and

WHEREAS, 80 percent of the world's crops depend on pollination, but disturbing statistics show a rapid decrease in pollinators throughout the United States. Contributing factors such as loss of habitat, chemical misuse, and invasive plant and animal species have affected our natural pollinators; and

WHEREAS, the domesticated honey bee, many species of butterflies, moths, birds, bats, and other pollinators are in retreat, threatening not only the production of commercial crops, but also a wide range of flowering plants, including rare and endangered species; and

WHEREAS, pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining a healthy and bio-diverse ecosystem, whether in the state's working lands or its natural areas; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania promotes conservation and stewardship through protecting pollinators, maintaining their habitats, and enhancing public understanding through education and outreach programs.

THEREFORE, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim June 17-23, 2019, as POLLINATOR WEEK. I encourage all citizens to protect and encourage pollinator habitats to ensure the continuation of species that are essential to our habits, economy, and lives.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-ninth day of April two thousand nineteen, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred forty-third.

TOM WOLF
Governor



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