



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release, June 1, 2020 Guelph, Ontario

Local Groups Receive Grants in Support of Pollinators

Bees, butterflies and other essential pollinating insects will be beneficiaries of projects recently funded through Pollination Guelph's new Community Grants Program. A total of \$5,000 was awarded to nine non-profit organizations located in Guelph and Wellington County:

- Bug Day at University of Guelph
- Guelph Campus Co-operative
- Yorklands Green Hub
- Sunrise Therapeutic Riding and Learning Centre
- Downtown Neighbourhood Association Community Garden
- The Guelph Enabling Garden
- Trees for Guelph
- The Guelph Outdoor School
- Trillium Waldorf School

The majority of the projects involve planting gardens to increase pollinator habitat. Many combine this with educational activities, often targeted at school-age children, to teach about pollinators and pollination.

Several of the grants will support the expansion of an on-going project or the introduction of a new element into an existing program. For example, the funds awarded to The Guelph Enabling Garden will be used for a new Children's Pollination Garden. In the words of Garden Manager, Joanne Garnett " ... *we are excited for the opportunity to share in the Pollination Guelph's initiative to increase public awareness and education about native pollinators through the installation of a Children's Pollination Garden feature*".

Funds awarded to The Guelph Outdoor School (GOS) will create a pollinator garden and broaden the scope of the outdoor education programming to include pollination and pollinators. Chris Green, Director of GOS, thanked Pollination Guelph "*for supporting GOS in finding new and innovative ways of taking care of our location & creating a richer place to run our nature immersion programs*".

Another of the grants will contribute to a novel "Polli-Patch" project by Yorklands Green Hub and support 15 households in Guelph to install small pollinator gardens on their property.

Given the challenges presented by COVID-19, successful applicants will have until the end of 2021 to complete their projects. We hope that this will allow applicants that largely rely on students and groups of volunteers to still benefit from their grant.

The Community Grants Program was established by Pollination Guelph to leverage our financial resources and foster an increase in pollinator habitat through collaboration with non-profit community groups interested in developing and maintaining plantings that support pollinating insects. As funds permit, we aim to offer grants annually. More information is available on our website, www.pollinationguelph.ca.

Pollination Guelph is a group of individuals dedicated to the conservation and development of pollinator habitat for current and future generations. We are a charitable, federally incorporated non-profit organization that has been active in the community for over 13 years.

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