

Spotlight on Sustainability

April 2019

Provided by Your Ontario County Eco-Heroes



Earth Day April 22, 2019

Spring is sprung, the grass is rising, I wonder where the flowers are?
It is that time of year when we start planning our gardens. This year, in support of the Earth Day theme "Protect our Species", why not plant some varieties that will attract pollinators. There has been a lot of "buzz" about honey bees and the decline in managed bee populations. While that is certainly an important issue, many wild bee populations are also threatened.

There is a lot of debate over what is causing the decline, but one thing that is definitely contributing, is loss of habitat and the availability of food throughout the season. With the advent of the perfect green lawn, and well mulched single variety flower garden, the wild bees have nothing to sustain them once the crop blossoms are finished mainly in the spring. If you have some extra space in your yard, why not plant a Pollinator Pathway. A what? A Pollinator Pathway is a series of gardens with native plant species that form a distinctive vegetative path within an urban landscape that provides habitat for pollinators, while also reducing the susceptibility of the landscape to the introduction of invasive species that cause harm to the economy, environment, and or human health. The best part; the next time you enjoy some wonderful NY State fruits and vegetables, you will know that you helped to nurture those plants.

[*https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/pollinatorpathway.pdf](https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/pollinatorpathway.pdf)

[*https://pollinator.cals.cornell.edu/sites/pollinator.cals.cornell.edu/files/shared/WildPollinatorsEasternAppleOrchards.pdf](https://pollinator.cals.cornell.edu/sites/pollinator.cals.cornell.edu/files/shared/WildPollinatorsEasternAppleOrchards.pdf)

"...even the insects in my path are not loafers, but have their special errands".

-- Henry David Thoreau, 1906



Honey bee on apple blossom, Sandy, Bedfordshire

Did you know there is a way to eat delicious vegetables and fruit throughout the summer and fall, without having to go to a farmer's market every week, and also help support local business?

By signing up for a local CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) you can do just that!

A CSA is a cooperative arrangement between you and a farmer. You pay for a "share" of their crops in advance, and they commit to supplying you produce on a scheduled basis.

Benefit for the farmer: Residents paying for their "share" in advances eases farmer's financial burden during the growing season. Knowing the size of their market they can determine how much to grow.

Benefit for you: You are guaranteed a weekly supply of fresh produce during the growing season. There are also opportunities at some farms to have a 'working share' which allows you to help tend to the produce on the farm. Knowing where your food is coming from can give you a deeper appreciation for what our local farmers do every day.

For more information about CSA's and to sign up for one in our County please visit: <http://cceontario.org/agriculture/local-foods/community-supported-agriculture>.

By supporting local farmers we can help our economy, the environment, and our health.



Confidential Paper Shred Event

APRIL 26TH • 10:30AM to 1:30PM

2930 County Rd. 48
Canandaigua

Employees and Residents:
Bring any documents to be confidentially shredded and recycled.



For more information visit
OntarioCountyRecycles.org



FREE Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

APRIL 27TH • 7:00AM to 3:00PM

Casella Recycling Facility
3555 Co. Rd. 49
Stanley, NY

Drop off your old:
• Batteries
• Cleaners
• Paint
• Solvents
• And more!



PRE-REGISTRATION is required.

To register please call Casella Cooperative Association:
585-584-3877 x427

To find out what is accepted at the event please visit:
OntarioCountyRecycles.org/350/Events

