

TINY CREATURES... BIG JOBS

POLLINATORS HELP FEED THE WORLD

Fruits and seeds come from flowering plants—but only if the flowers can exchange pollen with others of the same species.

Because plants can't travel, they must rely on wind or animals to move pollen for them. We call these animals pollinators. To attract them, flowers "reward" pollinators with two nourishing foods; sweet nectar and rich pollen—two nourishing foods pollinators need to survive. It's a great relationship.



Broad-tailed Hummingbird (male). Courtesy iStockphoto.



Rufous Hummingbird (male). Courtesy iStockphoto.

Who Pollinates?

Honeybees, butterflies and hummingbirds pollinate. So do native bees and many moths, beetles, flies and bats. Because most are adapted to feed on certain types of flowers, nature needs a variety of pollinators to stay in business.

Checkerspot Butterfly. Courtesy USDA Forest Service.



POLLINATORS NEED OUR HELP

Pollinators support us, but their future is uncertain. Many are in decline worldwide, largely due to habitat loss, pesticide poisoning, disease, and introduced species.

The good news? Helping pollinators is easy and fun.

Help Native Pollinators —and Enrich Your Life!

- **Create pollinator habitat at home.** Plant native flowers. Visit our native plant garden for inspiration—and to watch local pollinators at work.
- **Minimize pesticides and chemical fertilizers.** Native plants grow especially well without chemicals.
- **Bee Informed.** Search online for Pollinator Partnership or scan this QR code.



Flies. Courtesy USDA Forest Service.



Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly. Courtesy iStockphoto.

Got Pollinators? Got Lunch!

Without pollinators, we wouldn't have 75% of the foods grown in North America. Can you identify all the summer cookout dishes that involve pollinators?



Answer: Everything except the chips, burger buns, and lettuce! Even cattle growers and dairy farmers rely on alfalfa—pollinated by native bees.