



## Overview

Pollinators are declining rapidly due to a number of factors, including loss of habitat, loss of forage and pesticides. Some pollinators such as bumblebees and Monarch butterflies may be on the verge of extinction. Many states have enacted or are considering legislation to acquire, restore and/or protect pollinator habitat, as well as to restrict the application of pesticides and other chemicals that are harmful to pollinators.

## Legislation

States have taken several approaches to protect pollinators, including:

- Encouraging communities to use native pollinator flowering plants and habitat, such as [NJ S 83](#)
- Increasing public education through a Pollinator Week such as [PA HR 385](#) and [NY's K 1434](#), or Bee Aware Day ([NM SM 103](#))
- Restricting or prohibiting specific pesticides, such as neonicotinoids ([MD HB 211](#), [NJ S 1016](#), and [MD HB 0208](#))
- Establishing funding for pollinator protection, such as through state license plate fees ([VA SB 434](#), [NJ S 92](#), and [CO HB 21-1145](#))

## KEY POINTS

- Pollinators are essential to at least one-third of the crops grown for human consumption. ([USDA](#))
- In 2020-2021 alone, 45.5% of honeybee populations in the United States died in one season ([Bee Informed Partnership](#)).
- Pollinators are responsible for \$24 billion in US crop production, and between \$235 and \$577 billion in crops produced worldwide ([Obama Administration & Bayer](#)).

## Other Resources

- Study detailing all state policy protecting pollinators from 2000-2017 ([Environmental Science and Policy](#)).
- North American Pollinator Protection Campaign with research, education and project partnerships ([NAPPC](#)).
- Xerces Society's Pollinator Conservation Resource Center, with habitat conservation guides, regional plant lists and fact sheets ([Xerces Society](#)).
- NCSL's "Pollinator Health" page on more policy options for pollinator protection ([NCSL](#)).

