

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Next Generation Stewards

Pollinator Survey

Pollinators are a specialized group of consumers that help plants reproduce by spreading pollen, and they help make a lot of the food that we eat! Think of some pollinators you already know. What are some animals you see visiting flowers? Bees and hummingbirds are two examples of pollinators. We can be stewards of pollinators by taking care of the native wildflowers that they love to eat. You may remove invasive plants, plant native trees and shrubs, or even grow a native pollinator garden at your home. Watch the video: mtsgreenway.org/get-involved/education/virtual-education/next-generation-stewards.

Materials:

- Sit spot journal (or piece of paper)
- Something to write with

How to conduct a pollinator survey:

- 1) Go out to your sit spot and observe the plants around you. Be sure to bring your sit spot journal and something to write with!
- 2) Take note of the plants you find by making a map of the area and putting the flowers on the map. As you explore, make special note of any pollinators you find. Look for bees, hummingbirds, bats, beetles, and birds.
- 3) Try to visit your sit spot at least once a week and bring your map. Make a new map each week if you can and track the changes you observe. Questions to consider in your sit spot journal:
 - How many different kinds of flowering plants can you find?
 - Are there areas where you see more or fewer flowers?
 - How do the flowers change throughout the season?
 - Are there new flowers blooming or ones that have already finished?
 - Do the areas with the most flowers change over time?
 - Are there changes in the types and numbers of pollinators that you see?
- We invite you to send us your observations and maps to <u>education@mtsgreenway.org</u>! We may share them on social media.

See an example of a pollinator survey map on the next page.



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