

Take the Pollinator Pledge

Scary times, but each of us can change the narrative. While we self-isolate saving human lives, we can also make a difference for biodiversity right here in Evanston.

Insects and migratory bird populations are in steep decline. Studies report 70-98% decline in insect biomass in Germany and Puerto Rico; in our Midwest, half of mayflies have disappeared, and butterflies, moths, fireflies, bumblebees and others are in trouble. Songbird populations have dropped 30% since 1970. But habitat in Evanston matters. We can change the way our garden grows, reduce lawns, add native plants, tuck leaves (unmulched) under shrubs and trees, and help overwintering bugs. Helping bugs not only helps birds, but all the other wildlife that eats insects and insect predators.

We can spread the word to City leaders, lawn services, our neighbors and others that we care about biodiversity and it is time to rethink lawns. If enough of us sign on, others may listen. Pledge to take the steps below, and then share out this message to your friends.

- Leave the leaves in the fall
- Leave plant stalks and seedheads
- No pesticides or lawn chemicals
- Native plants for year-round forage
- Mow less
- Reduce light pollution

Take the Pollinator Pledge:

<https://naturalhabitatevanston.org/content/im-taking-pollinator-pledge>

Why these Steps Matter: FAQ in English. <https://greenerevanston.org/pollinatorpledge>

Spanish. <https://bit.ly/PromesaPollinizador>

Want to Go Further? Post a Yard Sign: <https://bit.ly/PollinatorPledgeSigns>

