

# POLLINATORS ARE VITAL

Nearly 75% of the world's crops and 90% of wild plants require pollination. Pollinated plants provide humans with at least 1/3 of the food we eat everyday - vegetables, nuts, fruits, and even milk and meat - as well as many of the plants we use for medicinal purposes.

At least \$30 B of the annual U.S. GDP is attributed to crops and seeds resulting from the pollination services of bees and other pollinating species.

*Farmers who grow plants to feed pollinators grow more productive crops to feed people.*

## Environmental Benefits of Pollination

### Clean Air

Flowering plants contribute to clean air by converting carbon dioxide into oxygen.

### Water and Soils

Trees and shrubs help purify water and prevent erosion through root systems that hold soil in place. Foliage from these plants also buffer the impact of rain as it falls. The water cycle depends on plants to return moisture to the atmosphere, and plants depend on the pollinators to help them reproduce.

### Wildlife

Numerous animal species, from birds to bears to humans, eat fruit and seeds that require pollination for survival.

