

MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release



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North American Pollinator Protection Campaign Convenes for 17th Year in Washington DC to Advance Collaborative Actions

The North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), marking its seventeenth year of collaborative efforts to help pollinators, will be convening October 17-19 in Washington, DC. The conference will be hosted by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

NAPPC is a growing, collaborative body of diverse partners, including respected scientists, researchers, private sector stakeholders, conservationists and government officials working to find common ground on innovative initiatives that help pollinators.

“The Pollinator Partnership is very pleased to facilitate this unique collaboration, which has a demonstrated a track record of real successes over the past 16 years,” says Val Dolcini, President and CEO of the Pollinator Partnership, which facilitates NAPPC. “The shared goal of this forum is to set aside differences at the door, work to find common ground where possible, and move forward together on targeted projects that actually make things better in the world of pollinators.”

The formal conference will open with a speaker session on the morning of October 18. Timely topics will include pollinators and the Endangered Species Act; pathogens, pesticides and pollinators; the critical role of state apiarists; managing roadsides for pollinators; Palmer Amaranth and the CRP; Canadian agriculture and pollinators; the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge; the current state of the beekeeping industry; and reports from honey bee health researchers on projects funded through NAPPC.

Distinguished speakers at the forefront of pollinator issues will include Sam Droege (USGS), Tamara Smith (USFWS), Dr. Jeff Pettis (University of Bern), Dr. Tammy Horn Potter (Kentucky State Apiarist), Dr. Matt Horning (USFS), Jane DeMarchi (ASTA), Ron Bennett (Canadian Federation of Agriculture), Mary Philips (National Wildlife Federation), Gene Brandi (American Beekeeping Federation) and Pete Berthelsen (Bee and Butterfly Habitat Fund). NAPPC task forces will report on accomplishments over the past year.

Following these presentations, NAPPC task forces will include Bee Friendly Farming; Forage, Nutrition and Roadsides; Honey Bee Health; Monarchs; Pesticide Education; Selecting Plants for Pollinators; Bombus Clean Stock Program; Rooftop Gardens and Urban Youth; and Vector-Borne Diseases. These task forces will work to select consensus-based projects and desired outcomes for the coming year.

The speaker session, from 9 am to 12 pm on October 18, will be open to interested media. Please contact TVA@pollinator.org or vdolcini@pollinator.org for more information.

ABOUT THE POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP (P2) AND THE NORTH AMERICAN POLLINATOR PROTECTION CAMPAIGN (NAPPC)

Established in 1997, P2, a 501(c)3 headquartered in San Francisco, California, was incorporated in 1997. P2’s mission is to promote the health of pollinators, critical to food and ecosystems, through conservation, education, and research. Visit www.pollinator.org for more information.

P2 facilitates NAPPC, a tri-national collaboration working to promote awareness and scientific understanding of pollinators; to gather, organize and disseminate information about pollinators; to provide a forum to identify and discuss pollinator issues; and to promote projects, initiatives and activities that enhance pollinators. NAPPC's mission is to encourage the health of resident and migratory pollinating animals in North America. NAPPC partners gather from throughout the North American continent to raise public awareness and education and promote constructive dialogue about pollinators' importance to agriculture, ecosystem health, and food supplies. NAPPC encourages collaborative, working partnerships among participants and with federal, state and local government entities. The annual conference strengthens the network of associated organizations working on behalf of pollinators to promote conservation, protection and restoration of habitat, and to document and support scientific, economic and policy research. Information about NAPPC, including past accomplishments and highlights of past NAPPC conferences, is available at <http://pollinator.org/nappc>.