#### Falcon Heights Environment Commission October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 6:30 p.m.

#### Agenda

- 1) Approval of Minutes July and September
- 2) News and Announcements
- 3) Presentation from Julie Drennen
- 4) SCORE Grant
- 5) Pollinator Resolution Example
- 6) Blue Star Review
- 7) LoGoPEP Update

Next Meeting: November 14th

If you have a disability and need accommodation in order to attend this meeting, please notify City Hall 48 hours in advance between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at 651-792-7600. We will be happy to help.

#### Falcon Heights Environment Commission July 11, 2016 6:30 p.m. Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Chair Miazga, Secretary Olson, Staff Liaison Moretto, Commissioners Hall and Holmes.

1) Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting of the Environmental Commission were approved.

2) News and Announcements

There will be no August meeting of the Environmental Commission.

It was advised to check your email filter. Emails from the City addressed to Commissioners may be getting blocked.

It was brought up that plastic bags might not be recycled by Tennis as was initially thought. It was recommended to take plastic bags to places like grocery stores, which often have a recycling program in place for the bags.

3) Ice Cream Social

Help was requested to staff the Environmental Commission table and to provide crowd education. It was recommended that outreach should take place to help staff a youth commissioner.

Staff Liasion Moretto reminded Commissioners that they are representatives of the City, and should act accordingly.

4) MPCA Sponsorship Event Recap

The event that took place in June did not have a large attendance, but was well received by those who attended. A video of the public meeting is available.

Commission discussed ways to get more publicity for future events.

6) Public Comments

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM

Next Meeting: Monday, September 12th, 2016

#### Falcon Heights Environment Commission September 12, 2016 6:30 p.m. Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Chair Miazga, Vice Chair Montgomery, Secretary Olson, Staff Liaison Moretto, Mayor Lindstrom, Commissioners Hall, Holmes, and Wasserman.

1) Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the July 2016 meeting of the Environmental Commission was tabled until next meeting.

2) Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan

Ryan Johnson, Environmental Specialist from the City of Roseville, gave a presentation on the draft update of the Surface Water Management Plan (CSWMP). Because of shared engineering services, the City of Falcon Heights' CSWMP is included with Roseville's update. The current plan must be revised because of Minnesota Rules. This next version of the plan is due by December 31, 2018.

Liaison Moretto will send out a link for comment by Commissioners.

3) Presentation by Erin Rupp

Erin Rupp, Pollinate Minnesota, presented information about Governor Dayton's recent orders to protect pollinators. Erin has a model resolution that the City could adopt to help implement best practices to become more pollinator friendly.

The Commission moved to include reviewing this resolution on the October meeting agenda.

4) Score Grant

The Score Grant provides funds to for recycling initiatives. Commission moved to request City Council allow City Staff to apply.

5) Leslie Brandt – Update

Motion was passed to encourage the City Council to act on providing staff time to complete Urban Forestry Vulnerability Worksheet.

6) Alliance for Sustainability Event Discussion

Agenda item was tabled until next meeting

7) Blue Star Award Program

The Blue Star Award Program is similar to the Green Steps Program, but with more emphasis on water quality. Due to the limited surface water within Falcon Heights, points to qualify for the award may be difficult. Liasion Moretto asked the Commission to review the application. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

8) LoGoPEP Partner Cities update - Mayor

Mayor Lindstrom recently went to the kickoff meeting. This program helps to facilitate meeting Met Council's Comprehensive Plan requirements. Requests by City staff were made to involve the Commission in participating in future meetings.

9) SolSmart - Mayor

The Mayor provided a draft letter in support of the City's participation in the SolSmart Program.

Motion was passed by Commission to encourage the City to complete and submit the letter.

10) News and Announcements

No additional news was submitted

11) Public Comment

No public comments were provided.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM

Next Meeting: Monday, October 10th, 2016

## Blue Star Municipal Stormwater Management Assessment Phase One Final Assessment

#### This document is for review purposes only.

Below is a PDF version of the assessment questions contained in the Blue Star Award Program's Community Stormwater Management Assessment. This document is for reference only. All community assessments must be completed online at www.bluestarmn.org. For questions, contact Blue Star Award Program Coordinator Trevor A. Russell at (651) 222-2193 extension #18.

## **SECTION ONE – PLANNING & PRESERVATION**

#### Part A: Water Friendly Development Patterns

1. Does your community comprehensive plan allow the following sprawl-limiting strategies? (Select all strategies that apply)

Mixed-use development	(1 pt)
Compact development (greater than 3 units/acre)	(1 pt)
Transfer of development rights	(1 pt)
Redevelopment of underutilized previously developed sites	(1 pt)
Other applicable:	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

- 2. Does your community have any of the following incentives specifically targeted to 'brownfield' development and redevelopment sites? (*Select all that apply then check appropriate score box below*))
  - Density bonus
  - □ <u>Funding for remediation</u>
  - □ <u>Streamlined permitting</u>
  - □ <u>Reduced impact fees</u>
  - Tax increment financing

At least 2 of the above incentives:	(2 pts)
At least 3 of the above incentives:	(3 pts)
Not applicable in my community	(N/A)

3. Does your community require or encourage <u>Low Impact Development</u> (LID), decentralized stormwater management, and/or <u>Better Site Design</u> (BSD) standards for new development and redevelopment? (*Select all that apply*)

Required for new development and redevelopment	(3 pts)
Required for new development only	(2 pts)
Encouraged for new development and/or re-development	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

#### Part B: Natural Resource Preservation & Management

1. Does your community comprehensive plan include an inventory of high quality natural resource areas and are land-use decisions guided by the inventory in order to protect these areas from development?

Yes, inventory used to guide protection	(4 pts)
Yes, inventoried	(1 pt)
No	(0  pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

2. Does your community allow filling for development within the floodplain and if so, are restrictions imposed excluding storage of <u>hazardous materials</u> and requiring <u>compensatory</u> <u>storage</u> for fill?

No fill within FEMA and locally defined floodplain allowed	(4 pts)
No fill within FEMA floodplain allowed	(3 pts)
Fill allowed with the above restrictions	(2 pts)
Fill allowed without restrictions	(-1 pt)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
•	

- 3. What is the minimum width of <u>vegetated **wetland buffers**</u> required for new developments in your community?
  - Minimum of 25 feet for all wetlands but increase with quality and function of the resource. (3 pts)
  - Minimum of 25 feet for all wetlands (1 pt)
    No standard / I don't know / not specified (0 pts)
- 4. What is the minimum width of <u>stream buffers</u> required for new developments in your community (A), and do those buffer standards include any floodplain, steep slope, vegetation or resource quality considerations (B)?

#### Part A (select appropriate answer):

Minimum of 100 ft feet for all streams	(4 pts)
Minimum of 70 feet for all streams	(3 pts)
Minimum of 50 feet for all streams	(2 pts)
Minimum of 25 feet for all streams	(1 pt)
No standard / I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
Not Applicable in my community	(N/A)

#### Part B (select all that apply & then check the scoring box below)

- □ Additional buffer width to encompass 100-year floodplain
- □ Additional buffer width in areas with steep slopes (9% or greater)
- □ Buffer language clearly specifies vegetated cover requirements
- Expanded stream buffer requirements for sensitive resources, such as trout streams and/or ORVWs?
- $\Box \quad 1 \text{ of the stream buffer practices} \tag{1 pt}$

(2 pts)

- □ 2 or more of the above standards
- □ None of the above standards apply in my community

5. Does your community protect **high quality** or **sensitive** wetlands through a <u>Resource</u> <u>Management Plan</u> or <u>Wetland Management Plan</u>?

Yes, plan exceeds state standards	(2 pts)
Yes, plan meets state standards	(1 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
Not Applicable in my community	(N/A)

- 6. Does your community encourage the establishment and sustainability of urban forests through the following strategies: (select all strategies that apply, then check appropriate score box below)
  - □ Insect & disease control
  - □ Increased care during establishment
  - □ Encouraged boulevard tree establishment
  - Increased indigenous diversity
  - □ <u>Tree protection and replacement ordinance</u>

At least 2 of the above strategies:	(1 pt)
At least 3 of the above strategies:	(2 pts)
At least 4 of the above strategies:	(3 pts)

7. Does your community have land use protections and/or development restrictions that preserve steep slopes (18% or greater) in a stable, undisturbed vegetated state?

1		•
	Yes	(2 pts)
	No	(0 pts)
	I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
	Not Applicable in my community	(N/A)

8. Does your community require stormwater infiltration to be implemented, consistent with the <u>Minnesota Department of Health guidelines</u>, in wellhead protection areas?

±	0	1	
Yes			(2 pts)
No			(0 pts)
I don't know / not specifi	ed		(0 pts)

#### Part C: Stormwater Management Funding & Incentives

1. Does your community have any of the following stormwater management funding mechanisms?

## **Ongoing Funding Mechanisms:**

Stormwater Utility User Fee	
Other applicable:	
□ Yes	(3 pts)
□ No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

2. Does your community have any of the following expanded infrastructure stormwater management funding mechanisms? (*select any that apply, then check appropriate score box below*))

<u>Stormwater Connection Fee</u>

• <u>Stormwater Tax District</u>

Other applicable:	
□ Yes	(1 pt)
□ No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

3. For existing/developed sites, does your community allow for on-site reductions in stormwater fees for the retrofitting of stormwater management practices?

Yes for commercial, industrial and residential	(2 pts)
Yes for only commercial and industrial	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

#### **BONUS**

A. Has your community adopted a <u>stable funding mechanism</u> for land acquisition of high quality natural resource and/or riparian buffer areas within the last 10 years?

Yes	(1 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

B. Are your community's <u>wellhead protection areas</u> mapped – and are these maps referred to during development review?

-	
Yes – mapped and referred to during development review	(2 pts)
Yes – our wellhead protection areas are mapped	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
Not Applicable in my community	(N/A)
	Yes – our wellhead protection areas are mapped No I don't know / not specified

# SECTION TWO – STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STANDARDS & PRACTICES

#### Part D: Impervious Cover Management

1. Does your community allow <u>proof-of-parking</u> or <u>shared driveways</u> to minimize impervious surface?

Yes	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

# 2. For **retail/shopping** areas larger than 10,000 sq ft of floor space, what is your **minimum** required parking ratio for (per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> of gross floor area)?

Fewer than 3.5 parking spaces	(3 pts)
3.5 to 4.0 parking spaces	(2 pts)
4.1 to 4.5 parking spaces	(1 pt)
Greater than 4.5 parking spaces	(0 pts)

		We have a <b>maximum</b> parking ratio of 4.0 or less	(4 pts)
3.	What	is your <b>minimum</b> required <b>office building</b> parking ratio (p	er 1000 ft <sup>2</sup> of gross floor area)?
		Fewer than 3.0 parking spaces	(3 pts)
		3.0 to 3.5 parking spaces	(2 pts)
		3.6 to 4.0 parking spaces	(1 pt)
		Greater than to 4.0 parking spaces	(0 pts)
		We have a <b>maximum</b> parking ratio of 3.5 or less	(4 pts)
4.	What	is your minimum stall width for standard parking spaces?	
		9 feet or less	(2 pts)
		9.1 to 9.9 feet	(1 pt)
		Greater than 9.9 feet	(0 pts)
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5. For **new residential** lots, does your community require or encourage impervious surfaces like roofs and drive ways to <u>drain to vegetated areas</u>?

Required	(3 pts)
Encouraged	(1 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
Not Applicable in my community	(N/A)

6. Does your community require or encourage, where feasible, parking area landscaping to be used for bio-retention of stormwater volume and/or water quality management?

Required	(3 pts)
Encouraged	(1 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
	Required Encouraged

#### Part E: Stormwater Management Policies

1. For **new development**, do your community stormwater management standards apply to all new impervious surfaces, or is a minimum threshold (de minimis) included?

Standards apply to all new impervious surfaces	(10 pts)
Standards apply to 10,000 sq. ft. or more of new impervious surface	(8 pts)
Standards apply to .5 acres or more of new impervious surface	(4 pts)
Standards apply to 1 acre or more of new impervious surface	(1 pt)

- □ I don't know / not specified
- 2. For **new development**, do your community stormwater standards require rate control based on the difference between a <u>baseline-condition</u> and <u>post-development runoff condition</u>?
  - Yes, our baseline condition is <u>Pre-European settlement</u>
    Yes, our baseline condition <u>approximates woods/grass in good condition</u>
    Yes, our baseline is <u>pre-development (existing)</u> conditions
    Yes, our baseline is <u>pre-development (existing)</u>
    No
    I don't know / not specified
    (0 pts)
- 3. Does your community require best management practices (BMPs) for all **new development** that will result in 90% reduction in total-suspended-solids (TSS) *and/or* 60% reduction in total phosphorous (TP)?

(0 pts)

Yes	(2 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

4. Are post-construction sediment and nutrient loading requirements customized to downstream water resources?

Yes	(3 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

5. Has your community adopted an erosion and sediment control ordinance?

Ū	Yes	(10 pts)
	No	(0 pts)
	I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

6. For **new development**, do your community stormwater management standards require, where feasible, runoff volume control?

Yes, up to 0.5 inches of runoff from impervious surfaces	(3 pt)
Yes, 0.6-1.0 inches of runoff from impervious surfaces	(9 pts)
Yes, 1.1-2.0 inches of runoff from impervious surfaces	(12 pts)
Yes, no runoff volume increase for the 2-yr, 24-hr event	(9 pts)
Yes, no runoff volume increase for the 5-yr, 24-hr event	(12 pts)
Yes, no runoff volume increase for the 10-yr, 24-hr event	(15 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

7. Do your community stormwater management standards specify pretreatment requirements for stormwater prior to discharge into all volume control best management practices (BMPs)?

Yes	(2 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

8. Do your community stormwater management standards apply to all redevelopment?

Yes, reconstructed and net increase in impervious surface	(9 pts)
Yes, net increase in impervious surface only	(4 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
Not Applicable in my community	(N/A)

9. Do your community stormwater management standards apply to roadway reconstruction?

Yes, reconstructed and net increase in impervious surface	(9 pts)
Yes, net increase in impervious surface only	(4 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

#### Part F: Green Streets For Cleaner Water

- 1. For **public**, **residential access and sub-collector streets** (with fewer than 500 average daily trips) what is the minimum roadway pavement width **allowed** in your community?
  - $\Box 24 \text{ feet or less}$ (4 pts)

25-26 feet	(2 pts)
27-28 feet	(1 pts)
Greater than 28 feet	(-1 pt)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

#### 2. Does your community set radial maximums for residential cul-de-sacs without center islands?

Yes, 30 feet or less	(3 pts)
Yes, 35 feet or less	(2 pts)
Yes, 40 feet or less	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
Not Applicable in my community	(N/A)

3. Does your community require or encourage <u>central</u>, <u>depressed vegetated/pervious islands</u> on cul-de-sacs with a radius greater than 40-feet?

Require	(2 pts)
Encourage	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
Not Applicable in my community	(N/A)

# 4. Does your community encourage <u>curb-cuts</u>, <u>ribbon curb</u> or <u>right of way swales</u> for infiltration and conveyance of stormwater runoff in lieu of curb-and-gutter along residential roadways?

Yes, allowed and encouraged	(2 pts)
Yes, allowed	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

5. Does your community allow & encourage pervious/permeable surfaces on residential/commercial area sidewalks, and residential/commercial parking lots? (*select all that apply*)

Yes on residential/commercial sidewalks	(1 pt)
Yes on residential/commercial parking lots	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

#### **Bonus Stormwater Standards:**

A. Do your community development standards require <u>soil ripping</u> at least 1 - 2 feet deep after <u>mass grading</u> is complete for all soil types where appropriate?

Yes	(2 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

B. Do your community development standards require or recommend adding a <u>soil amendment</u> where appropriate?

Amendments required	(3 pts)
Amendments recommended	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

C. Does your community allow the use of trees and native vegetation to count towards your community volume control standards?

Yes	(2 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

D. Does your community have stormwater water reuse standards and/or incentives for stormwater reuse?

Yes	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

E. Does your community encourage or require any of the following water conservation strategies: *(select all that apply)* 

Smart irrigation systems that track weather patterns	
and mitigate unnecessary watering	(1 pt)
The use of <u>low-water vegetation</u>	(1 pt)
Even/Odd watering bans	(1 pt)
Water Conservation Rate Structure that exceeds DNR mit	nimum requirements (1pt)
Other:	(1 pt)

## **SECTION THREE – STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION**

#### Part G: Education & Community Programs

1. Does your community participate in stormwater pollution prevention education & outreach programs such as: (select all that apply)

Metro Blooms educational workshops (within last 3 years)	(1 pt)
The <u>NEMO Program</u> (within last 3 years)	(1 pt)
The Clean Water Minnesota Media Campaign (annually)	(1 pt)
The <u>Blue Thumb Program</u> (annually)	(1 pt)
Other similar program ( <i>please specify</i> ):	(1 pt)
I don't know / not specified	(0  pts)

2. [For non-MS4's only] Does your community have residential and education programs targeted to prevent stormwater runoff pollution?

Yes	(2 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

- 3. [For MS4 Cities only] Does your community have residential and business education programs such as: (*select all that apply, then check appropriate score box below*)
  - □ A city newsletter that regularly includes a variety of stormwater pollution prevention messages at least 4- 6 times each year
  - □ A city website with that regularly includes a variety of stormwater pollution prevention messages at least 4- 6 times each year

- **□** Educational stormwater pollution prevention workshops for residents
- **□** Education and outreach program for local businesses
- □ A storm drain stenciling program
- **D** Regular utility bill inserts with stormwater educational messages
- □ Sponsorship of community education events and/or clean ups
- □ <u>Adopt-a-Storm Drain</u> program
- □ Stormwater BMP demonstration sites with educational signage

At least 2 of the above strategies:	(1 pt)
At least 3 of the above strategies;	(2 pts)
At least 4 of the above strategies:	(3 pts)
More than 4 of the above strategies:	(4 pts)

4. Does your community promote and/or provide financial assistance for the implementation of stormwater pollution prevention & treatment practices and projects for residents or local businesses?

Yes – promotion & financial assistance	(3 pts)
Yes – promotion only	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

# 5. Which of the following certification and training opportunities does your community make available to municipal staff on a regular basis:

Erosion & sediment control certification	(1 pt)
Illicit Discharge detection & elimination training	(1 pt)
NEMO "Stormwater U"	(1 pt)
Minnesota Road Salt Symposium	(1 pt)
Fertilizer & Pesticide use minimization training	
for institutional, parks, residential or commercial property managers?	(1 pt)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

#### Part H: Inspection & Enforcement

1.	Non-N	<b>MS4 question only</b> ] Is your community's stormwater system mapp	ped?	
		Yes	(1	pt)
		No	(0	pts)
		I don't know / not specified	(0	pts)

# 2. Are all active construction site erosion & sediment control standards inspected and enforced on all sites?

Yes	(4 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

3. Does your community have an inspection & maintenance schedule for stormwater management practices - including catch basin sumps & stormwater ponds?

Yes	(2 pts)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

#### Part I: Source Control

1.	1. Does your community responsibly manage and use deicing materials and sand through the		
	following practices:		
		Use of covered deicing material storage	(1 pt)
		Minimize use of a deicing materials	(1 pt)
		Staff are trained and certified in the guidelines laid out in	
		the MPCA's 2006 Winter Parking Lot and Sidewalk Maintenance	Manual (1 pt)
		Staff are trained in the guidelines laid out in the	
		MNDOT Snow & Ice Control Handbook	(1 pt)
		No	(0 pts)
		I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
2.	Does y	your community have a street sweeping plan that prioritizes sweeping	ng in <u>untreated areas</u>
	that ar	e directly tributary to lakes, streams and wetlands?	
		Yes	(2 pts)
		No	(0 pts)
		I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)
2	D		
3.	•	your community have a residential yard waste collection program?	4
		Yes	(1 pt)
		No	(0 pts)
		I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

4. With what average annual frequency are your community's public residential streets swept?

Three or more times a year on average	(3 pts)
Twice or more a year on average	(1 pt)
Fewer than twice a year on average	(0 pts)

#### **BONUS**

A. Does your community own and operate a <u>high efficiency regenerative air</u> or <u>vacuum assisted</u> <u>street sweeper</u>?

□ Yes	(1 pt)
🗆 No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

B. Has your community adopted a policy encouraging the use of <u>asphalt-based seal coating</u> and / or limiting the use of <u>coal-tar based asphalt sealants</u> on public or private driveways, roads, and parking lots?

Yes	(1 pt)
No	(0 pts)
I don't know / not specified	(0 pts)

C. Does your community require & enforce maintenance agreements for privately maintained stormwater facilities?

Yes	(3 pts)
No	(0 pts)

□ I don't know / not specified

(0 pts)

# Pollinate Minnesota

## **Pollinator Friendly Resolution Best Practices**

Pollinator Friendly resolutions are a way to celebrate the pollinator friendly practices your municipality already has in place. They are also critical to changing practices to protect pollinators and are catalysts to bigger change in your communities, statewide and nationally. While all resolutions are pledges for pollinator protection, these best practices can add detail and scope to improve pollinator health in your community.

## Why pass a pollinator friendly resolution?

- Pollinators like bees are critically important to our ecosystems and our food systems. And they're struggling. As beekeepers in Minnesota in 2014-15, we lost 51% of our hives. Our over 400 species of native bee are also in decline.
- The causes of pollinator decline are known.
  - Our ecosystems no longer have the abundance of clean flowering plants pollinators need. Bees are hungry; they need more flowers. Wild bees also need habitat.
  - Pollinators are exposed to pollinator lethal insecticides, including neonicotinoid and other systemic insecticides, which are used prophylactically in land management, agriculture, and nursery practices.
  - Pollinators suffer from parasites and disease, including the honey bee parasite the varroa mite.
- **Minnesotans care deeply about bees**. As individuals, Minnesotans are doing what we can, choosing with our hearts, our dollars, and our trowels to help bees. It's not enough. We need to change policy to curb pollinator declines.
- MN State law preempts smaller municipalities' ability to regulate pesticides, but doesn't restrict a municipality's treatment of the land it manages. Passing a pollinator friendly resolution sends the message that you care about this issue and are doing what you can with your own land.
- YOUR MUNICIPALITY CAN BE A NATIONAL LEADER ON THE ISSUE. While a few cities have passed resolutions, this is a new trend, and one your municipality can be at the forefront of.

## Key pieces of strong resolutions

# Reducing pollinators' exposure to pollinator lethal insecticides by eliminating use of neonicotinoids and other systemic insecticides.

Neonicotinoid pesticides are a driving factor behind pollinator decline. At high doses, neonics can kill bees, butterflies and songbirds outright. At lower doses, neonics impair pollinators' navigation, reproduction, communication, and immune system functioning. We're seeing drift with neonics-the USGS found them in 75% of tested waterways in the Midwest, and recent research found higher concentrations in the pollen of wildflowers surrounding coated canola rapeseed fields than in the pollen of the canola flowers the neonic was applied to. Beyond neonicotinoids, many other pesticides, on their own or in combination, weaken pollinator health.

- 1. Eliminate use of neonicotinoid and other systemic insecticides.
  - a. Neonicotinoids are one class of systemic insecticide, and other systemics, like Fipronil, are known to be toxic to pollinators. We're seeing federal movement toward increased regulation of neonics (hopefully), and we know, historically, when one chemical becomes restricted, industry replaces it with a similar compound, often with equal toxicities. Articulating "neonics and other systemic insecticides" in your resolution addresses concerns with current and future systemic insecticides.
- 2. Improving/ reassessing municipality Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plans. IPM is a land management strategy that emphasizes controlling pests with the least possible disruption to ecosystems, and is not a term we have a shared definition for. Use specific language around IPM policy change.
  - a. For example: "Direct all city departments to develop an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program that requires site inspections, monitoring and prevention strategies, an evaluation on the need for pest control, and when pest control is warranted the use of structural, mechanical, biological and other nonchemical methods first, and if nontoxic options have been exhausted, the use of least-toxic pesticides that have been certified organic or are exempt from federal registration on all public grounds and exterior spaces within the city to protect pollinators."
  - b. Track departments' IPM and pesticide use. If the number of departments with IPM plans or currently using neonics is unknown, an initial assessment to establish a baseline can be part of the resolution.
- 3. Defining exceptions very specifically.
  - a. Managed spaces like golf courses and premiere athletic fields have higher pesticides loads than most lawns. We know that pollinators don't traditionally visit spaces like premiere athletic fields or lawns for food, as there aren't many flowering plants, and pesticide exposure at the time of spray when applying according to label may be low. Yet, we know, in agricultural applications, these chemicals move to nearby flowering plants, to our groundwater and throughout the environment. Limit the number of exceptions, and define them specifically.
  - b. Seek out alternatives in the areas with exceptions. Pilot projects with more sustainable options including non-chemical controls. Many municipalities have written in pilots for alternative management in their areas of exception.
  - c. These are the sticking spaces nationally- everyone's having trouble thinking about transitioning away from systemic insecticide use in these spaces. There is a real opportunity for national leadership in managing premiere athletic fields for pollinators.
- 4. Transitioning to organic management.

While replacing a neonic with for an organic or pollinator friendly option is not often a one for one - chemicals like Merit are not easily replaced with a less toxic chemical alternative in treatment of Japanese beetle larva for example- there is national precedent in transitioning to organic management. With increased soil health insecticides are no longer needed. National resources, like Beyond Pesticides (www.beyondpesticides.org) will provide free training for municipalities who pilot organic management.

#### Increasing Clean Pollinator Forage in the City

Pollinators are hungry; they need pollen and nectar sources all season long. Our over 400 species of native bee- and all our other insect pollinators- also need places to live.

- 5. Increase pollinator friendly habitat.
  - a. Use native, sustainably and locally sourced seeds and plants when possible.
  - b. Increase forage by over seeding managed lawns with clover.
  - c. Decrease herbicide use on managed lawns to increase flowering plants. Dandelions, clover, and even creeping charlie provide critical food for our hungry bees, often at times of year when they need it most.
- 6. Consider unique land management relationships; think about all the ways your municipality interacts with land.
  - a. Increasing habitat on land you own, including parks, vacant lots, fire and policy stations, water works, other municipality facilities.
  - b. Consider changing regulations to increase pollinator forage.
    - i. For example: Encourage pollinator friendly planting/systemic insecticide free landscaping in new building development.
- 7. Source clean plants.
  - a. Amend purchasing policy to require plants be free of pollinator lethal insecticides. Many nursery-grown plants are treated with systemic insecticides, but truly pollinator friendly plants that aren't treated are becoming more available. Ask for them.
  - b. Adopt clear guidelines against the use of pesticide-treated plants. Consider pollinator-friendly amendments to your municipality's Vegetation Management Policy.

#### Include goals, timelines, and mechanisms to track success of the resolution.

- 8. Include dates and goal related specifics, from the amount of land transitioned to the number of city departments who report IPM, to make your commitment to pollinator health clear to the public.
- 9. Name a department to maintain an internal resource for other municipality departments and be responsible for monitoring resolution success.
- 10. To celebrate an increase in the amount of pollinator forage, you need to know how much you started with. Determining a baseline can be a part of the first stage in your resolution.

#### Communicate!

- 11. Include public communication and education in your resolution.
  - a. Informed the public of your resolution and ongoing progress.
  - b. Engage and encourage the public to change their practices to be more pollinator friendly.
  - c. Name a department responsible for this communication.

#### Engage in broader policy change.

- 12. Communicate your resolution to your elected officials, other government departments and agencies, both locally and nationally, including agencies that manage land within your municipality (like the Department of Transportation.)
- 13. Include statements in support of state and federal pollinator protection initiatives. An example from Minneapolis's resolution: "Be it further Resolved that the City of Minneapolis will continue to advocate at the State and Federal level for increased authority to address the non-agricultural use of pesticides, and for other pollinator-friendly policies" and from Seattle's: "The Mayor and the Seattle City Council strongly urges the US House of Representatives to pass the Save America's Pollinators Act (HR 2692)."

At Pollinate Minnesota, we're working toward a MN that's better for pollinators and people. www.pollinatemn.org erin@pollinatemn.org, 612.245.6384

#### **RESOURCES**

- NATIONAL. Beyond Pesticides (www.beyondpesticides.org) will bring courses on transitioning to organic land management to you! The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation (www.xerces.org/) has excellent plant lists and resources for increasing habitat. The Pesticide Action Network (http://www.panna.org/foodfarming-derailed/bees-crisis) and the Center for Food Safety (http://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/issues/304/pollinators-and-pesticides) are good resources on ongoing science.
- LOCAL: Pollinate Minnesota (www.pollinatemn.org), Pollinator Friendly Alliance (www.pollinatorfriendly.org) and Humming for Bees (www.hummingforbees.org) have each spearheaded resolutions in their communities and consult with interested communities.



#### **CITY OF SHOREWOOD**

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 14-066**

#### A RESOLUTION ENDORSING "BEE-SAFE" POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

WHEREAS, the Shorewood City Council and Park Commission have undertaken several work sessions dedicated to the study and understanding of promoting a healthy natural environment through the reduction and elimination of harmful pesticides; and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators are integral to a wide diversity of essential foods including fruit, nuts, and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, native bees and honey bees are threatened due to habitat loss, pesticide use, pathogens and parasites; and

WHEREAS, recent research suggests that there is a link between pesticides that contain neonicotinoids and the die-off of plant pollinators, including honey bees, native bees, butterflies, moths, and other insects; and

WHEREAS, neonicotinoids are synthetic chemical insecticides that are similar in structure and action to nicotine, a naturally occurring plant compound; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it is in the public interest and consistent with adopted City policy for the City to demonstrate its commitment to a safe and healthy community environment through the implementation of pest management practices in the maintenance of the city parks, open spaces and city property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Shorewood:

1. The City shall undertake its best efforts to become a Bee-Safe City by undertaking best management practices in the use of plantings and pesticides in all public places within the City.

2. The City shall refrain from the use of systemic pesticides on Shorewood City property including pesticides from the neonicotinoid family.

3. The City shall undertake its best efforts to plant flowers favorable to bees and other pollinators in the City's public spaces.

4. The City shall designate Bee-Safe areas in which future City plantings are free from systemic pesticides including neonicotinoids.

5. The City shall undertake best efforts to communicate to Shorewood residents the importance of creating and maintaining a pollinator-friendly habitat.

6. The City shall publish a Bee-Safe City Progress Report on an annual basis.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHOREWOOD this 28th day of July, 2014.

Scott Zerby, Mayor

**ATTEST:** 

Jean Panchyshym Jean Panchyshyn, City Clerk