

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE PROTECTION OF POLLINATORS  
AND ENHANCEMENT OF POLLINATOR HABITAT**

WHEREAS, the City of Maplewood is dedicated to the protection of pollinators; and

WHEREAS, the City of Maplewood has many established programs and practices that help protect pollinators including preservation of natural areas, enhancing habitat including prairie restoration and use of native plants in gardens and plantings, very limited use of insecticides in the landscape, pollinator education and outreach to the community;

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

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

WHEREAS, 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 to demonstrate its commitment to a safe and healthy community environment through the implementation of practices that protect pollinators on city parks, open spaces, and city property.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED for and on behalf of the City of Maplewood, Minnesota and its citizens that:

1. The City shall undertake its best efforts to become a pollinator-friendly City by undertaking best management practices to protect pollinators on public lands within the City.
2. The City shall develop a policy for the use of insecticides and utilize best practices to limit the use of systemic insecticides on city property including insecticides from the neonicotinoid family and will request commercial applications are free of systemic insecticides including neonicotinoids.
3. The City shall undertake its best efforts to plant native plants and plants favorable to bees and other pollinators in the City's public spaces.
4. The City shall undertake its best efforts to communicate to Maplewood residents the importance of creating and maintaining pollinator-friendly habitat and will encourage residents and business to use pollinator-friendly practices.

Passed by the Maplewood City Council on January 25, 2016.