











Monarchs are pollinators

Monarchs and other butterflies, bees, flies, moths, beetles, hummingbirds and even small mammals are pollinators, meaning they carry pollen on their bodies and move it between flowers. This almost invisible act occurs millions. of times each day and creates a third of our food. It also sustains the native plants and habitats on which humans and wildlife depend.

Monarchs and other pollinators are declining

Monarch populations have undergone an 80 per cent decline over the past 20 years. Scientists know that insects are declining on every continent, largely due to habitat loss, pesticide use, climate change and disease. Even bumble bees, important pollinators, have declined across North America. Eight bee species are considered to be at risk in Canada.

We must act now

Immediate changes to land use are necessary if we hope to reverse the decline of Monarchs and other pollinators. The Canadian Wildlife Federation is working with government and industry partners to restore native wildflower habitat along public roadsides and right-of-ways, including hydro lines. This has potential to restore habitat for Monarchs and other pollinators, and even to provide migratory corridors.

Photos: Getty Images (cover): Holly Bickerton: Getty Images; Madeline Wadlow; Glenn Dunn

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How can you help pollinators?

- Buy locally produced food grown without pesticides
- Support farms that use sustainable practices, such as rotating crops and retaining hedgerows and wildflower field margins
- Encourage government to plant or restore native wildflowers along roadsides and in parks
- Reduce mowing on roadsides and in corridors to encourage the growth of wildflowers
- Encourage government to create a National Pollinator Recovery Action Plan
- Plant native wildflowers in your garden, at your school or in your community. CanadianWildlifeFederation.ca/Gardening
- Restore an area of your land to be a wildflower meadow or native prairie
- Take action on climate change
- Spread the word about the importance of Monarchs and other pollinators

For more information on Monarchs and pollinators, visit HelpTheMonarchs.ca.



Canadian Wildlife Federation 350 Michael Cowpland Drive Kanata, ON K2M 2W1 T 1.877.599.5777 E info@cwf-fcf.org

Canadian Wildlife Federation.ca