

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, pollinator species such as birds and insects are essential partners of farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply; and

WHEREAS, pollination plays a vital role in the health of our national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities; and

WHEREAS, pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy, biodiverse ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont has managed wildlife habitats, agricultural and public lands including Vermont forests and grasslands for decades; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont has recently added three species of bumble bee to the state's list of threatened and endangered species due to severe declines in the populations of these pollinators; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont provides producers with conservation assistance to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on working land and wildlands;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 20-26, 2016 as

POLLINATOR WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 20th day of April, A.D. 2016



Peter Shumlin
Governor

