



423 Washington St., 5th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111-2339
T 415.362.1137
F 415.362.3070
E info@pollinator.org

June 23, 2016

Governor Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

I would like to **thank you and your staff for declaring South Carolina Pollinator Week, June 20-26**, in support of the national observance. Last year, in an unprecedented act of vision and solidarity, all 50 state governors proclaimed Pollinator Week in their states as a time to celebrate and protect the nation's pollinating animals. With your support, we are on track to receive the same level of participation in 2016.

Pollinator health is an issue that transcends party lines and affects urban, suburban, and rural constituents. Moreover, it is a conservation issue that is being approached in a cooperative way with environmental and economic interests working together for solutions. It will greatly benefit the people of South Carolina to engage in the collective actions that will secure pollinators and sustainable agriculture and ecosystems. Here is how you can help in South Carolina:

1. **Inform your electorate about The Million Pollinator Garden Challenge**, a nationwide call to action to preserve and create gardens and landscapes that help revive the health of bees, butterflies, birds, bats and other pollinators across America. Together, we will move millions of individuals, kids and families outdoors and make a connection between pollinators and the healthy food people eat. Learn more – there is something for everyone at www.millionpollinatorgardens.org.
2. Coordinate with your Department of Transportation to support pollinator habitat on roadsides through **Section 1415 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act)**, signed into law by President Obama on December 4, 2015 to encourage states to utilize funds to promote "habitat, forage, and migratory way stations for Monarch butterflies, other native pollinators, and honey bees." We are standing by to assist you in coordinating these efforts.
3. Begin to plan for an action announcement for **Pollinator Week 2017 (June 19-25)**. Awareness means nothing if it does not lead to real action, and we are here to help the great State of South Carolina. Contact Evan Cole, National Pollinator Week Coordinator at ec@pollinator.org or 415-362-1137 for the support you need to make real change happen.

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The Pollinator Partnership has posted South Carolina's 2016 Pollinator Week proclamation on our one-stop source for Pollinator Week events at www.pollinator.org. Please click on the "Pollinator Week 2016" link to see a copy of South Carolina's proclamation and other events that are scheduled.

Though Pollinator Week 2016 has already succeeded in uniting the country and calling attention to the issue of pollinator decline, we still have a great deal to do, and with your help and the leadership of the State of South Carolina, we will ensure that bees, butterflies, birds, bats and all pollinators are helping plants for generations to come.

Thank you so much for your support; we are very grateful for your partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie Davies Adams". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Laurie Davies Adams
Executive Director
Pollinator Partnership