



Ahbléza

Lakotah word - one who observes or one who perceives

NEWS OF THE POLLINATOR PATHWAY, SOUTH COAST

“Flutter, Float and Fly” is the theme.

The path of the pollinator! The annual Port of Bandon Boardwalk Art Show, May 21st -Oct.20th, 2026. Bandon’s public art will be displayed along the boardwalk in Old Town. The show features works by amateur and professional artists of the south coast and beyond. Bandon School District student artists will be represented. Prizes will be awarded by categories, along with people's choice winners so vote your favorite! Local artist, Vicki Affatati, instructed students at Harbor Lights Middle School which has resulted in a some beautiful works (like below) you will see from grades 5 and 6.



“Lessons from a Pollinator Garden”

Free Garden class, presenter Darcy Grahek
Saturday, **June 20**, 11 am – 12:15 pm

See this garden at the USF&W offices. Learn how and why this garden was created seven years ago and now we want to share it’s lessons with people. A native species garden, it receives no irrigation during the year, only rainfall. Bring a chair, a hat and your water bottle, Parking is limited but is also available down below at the Bandon Marsh Overlook; from there follow the tunnel trail up to the offices to find our class at the garden.

Caterpillar Tales

Shown left, a Lorquins Admiral caterpillar, cleverly disguised as a bird dropping.



Caterpillars are essential to healthy ecosystems. They convert plant energy into nutrients for animals, especially for birds raising their young. A single chickadee nest requires 6,000–9,000 caterpillars to survive. Caterpillars not eaten by the birds will metamorphose into moths and butterflies that serve as key pollinators.

There are lots of reasons to plant native such as no summer water required or little need for maintenance. When you start planting native to make habitat you no longer see chewed leaves as damage. You have realized that the caterpillar only shows up in a healthy, working ecosystems.



June 13th from 1 to 5 pm
LANGLOIS & PORT
ORFORD NATIVE PLANT
GARDEN TOUR

This self-guided tour allows one to see south coast native and transitioning gardens for ideas and inspiration. Every year the tour focuses on one area of the south coast. This year investigates central areas, some further inland. Last year the tour was in Brookings. Next year, the garden tour committee hopes to focus on the Coos Bay/NorthBend. Let us know if your garden is a good candidate.

Tickets are \$10 and are available
AFTER May 30th at this site-

<https://npsoscc.square.site>

More info - marguerite.l.daly@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 29-30 Perennial native flower sale at Stillwater Natives Nursery -Buy one, get one free!

JUNE 13 Native Plant Garden Tour - Langlois and Port Orford -local Native Plant Society. See page 1

JUNE 20 Free Class -*Lessons from a Pollinator Garden*- Presenter Darcy Grahek, details page 1.

Early July - August 31 Pollinator Pathways Art Show at the Bandon Coffee Cafe, Old Town Bandon.



Glyphosate, Not Safe for Bees or Soil Life

Over 20 years ago, a landmark 2014 study was published in the Journal of Experimental Biology regarding glyphosate which is also the main chemical used in the herbicide called Round-Up. The study showed that exposing honeybees to field-realistic levels of glyphosate will impair their cognitive functions. The glyphosate had a negative effect on a bee's sensitivity to foraging and also impaired the bees ability to learn. So while it may not kill the exposed bees, it definitely affects their performance thus the survival of their offspring.

Glyphosate will affect the soil as well, in a number of ways. First, the antibacterial property has an adverse effect on soil microbes, essential to soil health. Scientists are now finding that repeated applications of glyphosate tend to starve and sicken the very crops that it is supposed to protect. Secondly, glyphosate binds up essential minerals, again resulting in poor crop production. And as poor results in the field are found, new stronger and combination products are being sought. And thirdly, glyphosate has an adverse effect on earth worms whose castings are a valuable organic source for plant nutrients. Earth worms also help to drain water, bring in oxygen and create spaces for plant roots. Use of this herbicide is deadly for unintended victims that support a critical ecosystem.



Handy Tip - Instead of glyphosate to eliminate grass or weeds, use plain brown cardboard and wood mulch (free of invasive species materials). Figure out what shape you want to be grass-free, lay the cardboard over that grass, overlap cardboard pieces by at least 6 inches. Cover with 4 inches of mulch. It will be grass-free, ready to plant after 1 rainy season.



Miz Bizbee

Miz Bizbee discusses her people . . .

"The Bombus (bumblebee) genus are eusocial insects, meaning they live in colonies surrounding a single queen. The colony is likely between 12 and 100 bees. Worker bees forage among the spring and summer flowers. They are gathering pollen and nectar, working to feed the new generation who will replace them. Sometimes they sleep on the flowers as evening temperatures cool. With the morning sun's warmth, they will return to work. Their lifespan is only about 1 month long.

In the Fall, one new queen is born after which the entire colony dies. It is of utmost importance that she find late blooming flowers to boost her stores of fat. She is the only member of the colony to restart a colony for next Spring., carrying her genetic survival skills forward. She will hibernate in the ground over winter, somewhere undisturbed and cool that will support her diapause, (a hibernation like state). Increasingly warmer winter temperatures will force her to arouse from that state and look for forage to replace her fat stores. Locally, Manzanita and Evergreen Huckleberry offer those winter flowers in the months of February-early March."