



Ahbléza

Lakotah word - one who observes or one who perceives

NEWS OF THE POLLINATOR PATHWAY, SOUTH COAST

HIGH SCHOOL or HOME-SCHOOL INTERNS NEEDED FOR FALL SEMESTER

Working in a greenhouse with plants is fun! We will connect students to a whole world of people who work with plants. You can learn more about the best practices for communities of pollinators and wildlife. Stillwater Natives Nursery is looking for **Fall Semester interns**, 4-6 hours a week. Receive a work experience credit and an \$800.00 stipend from Friends of Bandon Parks & Recreation. For more info or to apply contact Darcy at darcygrahek@gmail.com.



Series - Planting a Pollinator Patch - Steps 4, 5, and 6

Our south coast communities ought to have public native plant patches, free of pesticides or herbicides. Now is the right time to plan the design that restores even 10 square feet of pollinator habitat. This article is the second of a 3 part series, step by step "how-to" create a pollinator patch. Follow along with this newsletter or attend our habitat workshops, first is on Sept 19th at Bandon library. See Upcoming Events.

Step 4 - Digging the hole

Different than traditional landscaping –a hole for the native plant should be slightly deeper than the plant pot, and no wider. Backfill with loose soil or a little compost mixed in at the bottom. Backfill until the plant's main stem sits at the exact soil level as it was in the pot. Do not set it lower or higher.

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Swallowtails and Bitter Cherry - Vicki Affatati

The painting above and others by Vicki Affatati and her artist friends will hang in the gallery at the Bandon Public Library beginning September 8th and running through November. These beautiful works of art are part of the Pollinator Pathway efforts to bring awareness to the declining populations of many pollinator species and consequently, many bird species. It takes a lot of caterpillars to raise baby birds. Information of local native habitat that supports these pollinators and also birds is available on the website - www.pollinatorsouthcoast.org



The past **Ahbléza newsletters** are now available on our pollinator website - <https://www.pollinatorsouthcoast.org/>

Step 5 - Planting

Remove plant from the pot. Loosen the roots at the bottom only if they have made a mesh net or become rootbound. Leave the roots as undisturbed as possible. Set the plant into the hole to check the depth. Do not plant the crown lower than the soil level or it will rot.

Step 6 -Water In

Water in the new plants thoroughly, even if rain is in the forecast. One of the purposes of watering is to distribute backfill soil into any air pockets, preventing small roots from drying inadvertently. If out-planting in the field, plant as near as possible to an upcoming rain event. Soak soil thoroughly, so that water soaks as deeply as the root ball. Planting in Fall or winter gives native plants the most advantage, as these are the rainy seasons to grow and set deep roots.

Three final steps in newsletter next month.

Native Plant Hosts for South Coast Habitats

This reveal of “host” plant functions are from Holly Kocet, well-known Connecticut pollinator conservation advocate. “Researchers have discovered that while many bees collect nectar from a variety of plants, it is a different story when it comes to pollen. Bee “specialists” require pollen from a specific genus or family of plants. Often referred to as ‘host’ plant specialization, it is a trait also shared by butterfly caterpillars. No host plant, no pollinator. These specialist bees emerge from their nests the same time their host plant begins to flower; a mutual benefit since flowers often depend on the pollination of a specific bee species.”

An extensive list of Oregon’s south coast native plants suitable for microhabitats can be seen at www.pollinatorsouthcoast.org.

Please submit new suggestions of host plants with the pollinator species that they host, to the editor.

Darcy Grahek, Editor -
contact: darcygrahek@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Bandon Public Library
Gallery Art Show
Pollinator Pathways**

See artworks by Vicki Affatati & Friends
September 8th through November

**September 19 10:30- 12 noon
Design a Pollinator Patch
- for Home or Public Spaces**

Bandon Public Library Sprague Room
Free Slideshow and Workshop
presented by Darcy Grahek
of Stillwater Natives Nursery
Registration required-
info@stillwater nativesnursery.com

**Design a Pollinator Patch
for Home and Public Gardens**

Our ecoregion is very different from other parts of Oregon, in plant species, geology and climate. This makes it a challenge to find information to help you plan your project. Register now for this free workshop. It will guide you on your path forward as a steward of a south coast microhabitat, a.k.a. “pollinator patch.” The slideshow will demonstrate what has been done over the last 7 years on local pollinator patch projects. Participants will create a design in the workshop and receive resources: plant lists, materials sources, and contacts for professional native plant gardeners to help. Creating connections as a cohort of stewards, we are building on our experiences and sharing the lessons. **Registration is required.** just e-mail Darcy your contact info. See details in **Upcoming Events**, above.