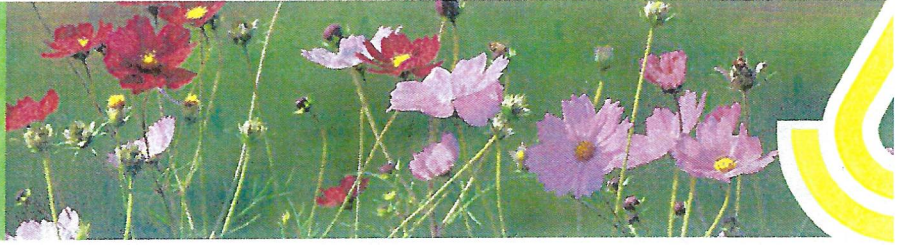


# WEST VIRGINIA Native Wildflowers



## *It all begins with a farm visit!*

**The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** makes farm visits, develops plans, and provides technical and financial support for individuals who want to manage their property for specific wildlife types or for general wildlife habitat improvement.

As your conservation decision partner, NRCS provides free assistance to landowners like you to reach land use and natural resource goals. Our local offices, staffed with conservation professionals with local knowledge, can help you make well-informed conservation decisions.

## *We love what we do!*

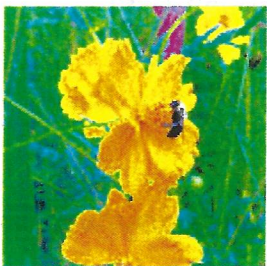
That's working with farmers, and forest landowners like you to start, expand, enhance, or improve your natural resources and put conservation practices in place that will benefit the soil, water, air, and wildlife.

## Getting Started with NRCS

**Schedule a Farm Visit.** Call or email your local USDA Service Center to set up an appointment.

**How to Prepare.** What is your vision for your land and farm? What are your challenges? Prepare a list of questions and concerns for your NRCS conservation specialist.

**What to Expect.** An NRCS team member will visit your property and ask about your dreams and goals for your land and can help you develop a plan to obtain them. During our farm visit we can discuss conservation planning and what financial and technical support is available for you.



West Virginia  
**Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service**

WV • February 2023

## Why Plant Wildflowers?

About seventy-five percent of our food rely on pollinators, and its not just Honeybees, but our native bees, butterflies, and moths too! If we lose our pollinators, we will lose not only our crops, but the wildlife and game that rely on the pollinators for food and seed production.

Tragically, there has been a global decline in all flying invertebrates by about forty percent. This includes all of our pollinators. This decline is largely due to the loss and fracturing of wildlife habitat as well as a consequence of commercial pesticide use.

Planting a native wildflower meadow not only provides our pollinators nectar, but it also provides them shelter and nesting habitat to better their chances of survival.



*Help West Virginia Pollinators and Wildlife  
by growing Native West Virginia Wildflowers!*



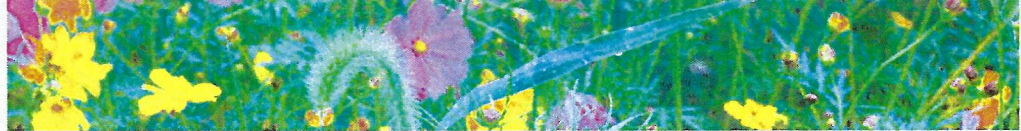
## Recommended Places to Convert

- Abandoned/Unused Pastures
- Strip Mine Sites
- Rights-of-Way
- Field Edges
- Lawns and More!

## Expectations

Growing Native Wildflowers and Grasses from seed can take upwards of three years. They are slow growing and spend a lot of their early lifetime growing roots. Because of this slow growth it is crucial for weeds to be diligently eradicated/managed during those first few years. Once fully established the perennial flowers will bloom throughout spring, summer and fall.

**Contact Gabby Lawinger**  
Partner Pollinator Biologist  
NRCS WV & WV Division of Natural Resources  
**304-566-3728**



## Our Conservation Partners



**Sometimes it takes a village to create quality wildlife habitat!**

NRCS experts from many disciplines work together with state and local partners to ensure effective conservation practices. Individually the federal, state,

and nonprofit groups that comprise our conservation partnerships have a diversity of expertise in discipline, location/area, and focus. As partners in conservation, we share our unique areas of expertise to better put sustainable conservation on your land.

**Partners NRCS frequently work with for Wildlife Conservation include:**

- WV Association of Conservation Districts
- WV Department of Agriculture
- WV Conservation Agency
- WVU Extension
- West Virginia University Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design
- USDA Farm Service Agency
- WV Division of Natural Resources (DNR)

### Contact Us

#### WV USDA Service Centers

Beckley	681-220-5761
Buckeye	304-427-3006
Cross Lanes	304-776-5256 ext 108
Elkins	304-635-4399
Franklin	304-358-2285 ext 3019
Gassaway	304-364-5103 ext 4012
Huntington	304-697-6033 ext 8396
Keyser	304-788-2332 ext 108
Kingwood	304-441-3770
Lewisburg	681-318-4025
Martinsburg	681-247-3016
McMechen	304-238-5648
Middlebourne	304-758-2173
Moorefield	304-530-2825 ext 106
Mount Clare	304-566-3727
Parkersburg	304-422-9072 ext 111
Petersburg	304-257-4702 ext 117
Philippi	304-457-4516 ext 115
Point Pleasant	304-857-5101
Princeton	304-557-3132
Ranson	304-930-9043
Ripley	304-514-7171
Romney	304-822-3020 ext 101
Spencer	304-519-3007
Summersville	304-618-6126
Union	304-772-3006
Weston	681-533-4128
White Hall	304-368-6910

## Common West Virginia Pollinator Conservation Practices



**Wildlife Habitat Planting** Establishing herbaceous wildlife habitat by planting native seeds and plants can provide essential wildlife food and cover. These plantings are particularly valuable for pollinator habitat when establishing wildflower or native grass meadows.



**Brush Management** Brush Management is used to control undesirable, non-native, and invasive woody vegetation such as autumn olive, bush honeysuckle, Japanese barberry, multiflora rose, oriental bittersweet, tree of heaven, and grapevine. Treatments may be mechanical, chemical, or a combination of the two and are intended to promote the establishment and growth of desirable plants.



**Tree/Shrub Site Preparation and Tree/Shrub Establishment** Tree/Shrub Site Preparation is used to improve growing-site conditions prior to establishing a stand of trees and shrubs. Tree/Shrub Establishment is then used to establish trees and shrubs by planting seedlings or cuttings, by direct seeding, or through natural regeneration.



**Structures for Wildlife** Structures for wildlife are habitat components such as brush piles, used by wildlife and pollinators for nesting and escape cover. Make the most of debris created as a byproduct of other forest management practices when planning wildlife structures.



**Field Borders** Field borders are strips of permanent vegetation (grasses, legumes, forbs, or shrubs) established on one or more sides of a field. The border is generally converted from cropland but may be created by removing large trees at the edge of woodland, leaving a transition zone of herbaceous and small woody plants. Planting these borders with wildflowers can benefit crop production by creating a haven for pollinators.



**Native Riparian Herbaceous Cover** Native grasses, sedges, rushes, ferns, legumes, and forbs tolerant of intermittent flooding or saturated soils, established or managed as the dominant vegetation in the transitional zone between upland and aquatic habitats.

**Visit our website: [www.nrcs.usda.gov/wv](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wv)**

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