



Saskatchewan
Prairie Conservation
Action Plan

Prairie's Got the Goods Week!

Pollinators, their importance, and how we can support them



Tuesday March 11th, 2025 at 12:00pm

Presenter: Jordan Phelps, Bee City Canada Coordinator,
Pollinator Partnership Canada

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More Information: SK PCAP: 306.352.0472 pcap@sasktel.net or www.pcap-sk.org

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Presentation Summary:

It is difficult to overstate the ecological and economic importance of pollinators. An estimated 87% of flowering plants benefit from or require animal pollinators, including approximately 75% of the major crops that we grow for human consumption. When asked to think of pollinators, most people think of the European honey bee. While the honey bee is incredibly important for crop pollination, people are often surprised to learn that it is only one member of the diverse community of pollinating animals on earth, which includes a wide diversity of bees (20,000+ species in the world, including ~900 native to Canada!), butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, wasps, birds, bats, and others. Unfortunately, many of the native pollinator species we depend on are facing challenges as a result of several factors, including habitat loss, climate change, pesticide exposure, and invasive species, among others. Because habitat loss is one of the greatest threats facing our native pollinators, we can all act to support them through habitat creation! Pollinator Partnership Canada offers many programs to support pollinators through habitat creation and education, including Bee City Canada, Pollinator Stewardship Certification Training, Bee Friendly Farming (BFF), and Bee Friendly Gardening (BFG).

About the Presenter:

Jordan Phelps is the Bee City Program Coordinator for Pollinator Partnership Canada. His passion for pollinators was sparked as an undergraduate at Western University where he studied animal cognition and learned about the incredible feats of learning and memory that bees and other small-brained but mentally mighty pollinators are capable of. He went on to complete an MSc at Western in neuroscience where he studied how exposure to common pesticides impacts the ability of bumblebees to learn about and gather food from flowers. This experience launched a lifelong interest in pollinators – not only for the good of our food crops and the ecosystem, but also because they are fascinating creatures to watch and learn from. Jordan is delighted to bring this passion to Bee City Canada, where he works with municipalities, campuses, and schools to make meaningful change for pollinators.

PCAP's Prairie's Got the Goods Week is an annual series of webinars focusing on the goods and services provided by the native prairie ecosystem.

Hosted by: Caitlin Mroz-Sailer, Stewardship Coordinator, Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan