



LEAD for Pollinators

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LEAD for Pollinators Accomplishments- 2024

Coalition / Network Partnerships

1. **MassQuito Coalition-** Revised previous year, secured sponsors, and submitted legislation to implement Task Force recommendations to modernize the state mosquito control program.
2. **Akron Environmental Justice Coalition-** held public forum with 100+ community and City staff seeking community input for sustainability, Inner Belt restoration, etc., monitored City Sustainability Office activities; begin education of plastics recycling plant pollution in East Akron; collaborated with National Park Service to facilitate their traveling display of 50 years of the CVNP.

Presentations provided to stakeholder groups:

- Great Plains Master Beekeepers- Strategies for Association Sustainability
- Big Love Network- Native Plants
- River Rally National Conference: Learning Lab collaborative presentation-“ Yes, you’re an advocate! Elevating Impact Through Community Training”

Legislative presentations / testimony written/provided virtually or in person

- Collaborative Petition with Beyond Pesticides, and PEER, to Massachusetts Inspector General concerning aerial mosquito spraying plans
- Present public comments to Copley Township concerning proposed chicken ordinance.

Consulting Services:

- Assess Northeast Ohio music outreach nonprofit whose founder had retired. Collaborate on programs with other nonprofits for services to K-12 students, families in music deserts, and residents of senior housing and memory care facilities. Create policies, procedures, assessed operations, reduced expenses by 26%, create job descriptions, hire Education Program Director; re-brand

organization with consistent marketing design; upgrade annual benefit; address organization's Black Lives Matter support; meet with all stakeholders (funders, contractors, Board, vendors), set-up 25 year old organization's first CRM- customize it for program services provided, create operations processes with staff, secure \$300K in grants in eight months.

- Conclude provision of project management services for a beekeeping product development post prototype.

Fiscally sponsored by LEAD for Pollinators

- Bee Collective <https://www.beethecollective.com/>
- Bee Heroic Project <https://www.beeheroic.com/>

Policy Actions Taken:

1. National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Draft 2026 Pesticide General Permit (Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OW-2023-0268), sign-on with NOFA-MASS, and MASS Rivers Alliance.
2. Comments on the Endangered Species Act Draft Rodenticide Biological Evaluation (EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0567-0004) sign-on with Center for Biological Diversity
3. Sign-on letter with NOFA-MASS Coalition to protect Massachusetts residents from the harms that come from the overuse and lack of regulation of pesticides. In brief, these are the bills we hope to see passed:
 - a. H.811, "An Act relative to improving pesticide protections for Massachusetts schoolchildren,"
 - b. S.487/H.825, "An Act Relative to Pesticides,"
 - c. S.521/H.783, "An Act relative to the pesticide board
 - d. S.445/H.845, "An Act establishing an ecologically-based mosquito management program in the Commonwealth to protect public health,"
4. Sign-on letter with Friends of the Earth to Target Corporation: Protect Pollinators & Phase Out Toxic Pesticides
5. Sign-on letter with American Bird Conservancy for Neonics Rulemaking : Docket ID EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0428
6. Sign-on letter in support of Ban Atrazine Toxins Act' with Center for Biological Diversity
7. Sign-on letter with MASS Audubon for Wetlands-401 Resilience Comments to DEP