

NUTRIEN SOLUTIONS POLLINATOR SEED BLEND



ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AND POLLINATORS

BEE SAFE. BEE FRIENDLY.

Every day, vegetation management crews work along roadsides to keep motorists safe. Properly managed vegetation provides clear sightlines, unobstructed clear zones and proper storm-water drainage and minimizes erosion. Roadsides also offer a unique opportunity to provide linear habitat for pollinators.

WHAT ARE POLLINATORS?

• HONEYBEES • BUTTERFLIES • HUMMINGBIRDS • BATS

Pollinators, such as **honeybees**, **butterflies**, **hummingbirds and bats**, help plants reproduce by transferring pollen. This **allows the plant to produce berries**, **nuts and other foods** important to the survival of many species of wildlife and the world's food supply.

Intensive mowing damages desirable, low-growing, flowering plants that often attract pollinators, disturbs the soil surface, opening things up for weeds and erosion, and exacerbates the spread of weed species by removing only the plant tops and leaving roots intact. This promotes rapid regrowth of the weeds. Mowing also spreads weed seeds and plant fragments along the roadside.



Herbicides are a tool used by vegetation managers to control the entire plant. Herbicides remove undesirable weeds, brush and trees and **promote the growth of desirable grasses** and **wildflowers** by removing competition for space, sunlight, moisture and nutrients.

An integrated vegetation management strategy can use a variety of methods to effectively manage vegetation along roadsides while encouraging native plants that are pollinatorfriendly.

WHAT IS A POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY HABITAT?

Many studies show a steady decline in pollinator populations worldwide. The decline is due in large part to the **loss of habitat** they need to survive.

Roadsides can **provide important linear habitats for pollinators**. They are often the only habitats available in intensely managed urban and suburban areas and serve as corridors that connect larger patches of key habitat.

Our goal is to **help you manage** your roadsides for a diverse mix of compact flowering plants and grasses. **Strategic vegetation management** can result in a **healthy, diverse plant community** that provides food and nesting sites for pollinators and keeps your roadsides safe.

ESTABLISHING POLLINATOR FRIENDLY HABITAT ON YOUR ROADSIDES

Public awareness of the **decline in pollinators** and the **importance of native habitat** has increased recently. Over the last several years, the federal government, many state and local governments, environmental groups, and the public have been proactive in **encouraging pollinator habitat**.

Pollinator habitat is important to the communities where we live and work, and proactive vegetation management **provides a unique opportunity** to contribute to the nationwide effort to restore pollinator populations.

OUR POLLINATOR SEED BLEND AND HOW IT FITS INTO YOUR ROADSIDE PROGRAM

Roadsides are part of important infrastructure systems and must be maintained for operations and safety. These linear features also **provide an opportunity** for vegetation managers to **provide pollinator habitat.**

Nutrien Solutions' Pollinator Seed Blend was developed to provide vegetation managers with a *suite* of *pollinator plants* that – once established - can also be *easily managed* through your roadside program.

The plant species in this blend are **tolerant** of **several common herbicide products** used in roadside spray programs. After establishment, these **plants can survive weed control treatment**s such as 7 ounces of Milestone and 3-4 ounces of Plateau. **Save money** and **time** and **create safetyconscious** pollinator habitat on your roadsides. Once a roadside is seeded with this blend, herbicide treatments can be used to **remove weeds** and still **maintain a beautiful roadside** pollinator prairie habitat.

This seed blend is made up of a combination of **native flowers** and **grasses**. The plants also have different bloom times and bloom longevity, which is beneficial to pollinators and for aesthetics.





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