

## POLLINATOR SEED EXCHANGE & EDUCATION PROGRAM

Sponsored by the City of Warwick Wildlife

& Conservation Commission

## FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Saturday, September 30 from 10 AM - 2 PM Clouds Hill Museum, 4157 Post Rd., Warwick, RI

Pollinators – birds, bees, and butterflies – help ensure our fruit and vegetable supply and are important to the health of our ecosystem. You can support them by making your yard a welcoming place for them to eat, shelter, and reproduce – it's easy and economical to provide them with proper native plants, while beautifying your property! Join us at the beautiful Clouds Hill Museum for a fun and educational program featuring:

- 1. Presentations: Keynote speaker Nathan Lamb: A landscape designer of Nathan Lamb Gardening & Samp; Ecology, LLC (Charlestown, RI), Lamb will discuss his methods for ecology-based gardening and describe how people can effectively, efficiently, and economically undertake steps to transform their yards into pollinator-friendly landscapes. Opening presenter Katie Shortmann, coordinator for the Audubon Society of Rhode Island's Bristol pollinator garden, will share information concerning native seed-starting and why native plants are important to pollinators and the ecosystem as a whole.
- **2. Seed and Resource Exchange:** The pollinator program will also feature a seed exchange attendees are welcome to bring seeds from their gardens to share with others and resource and information tables from participating organizations, including the commission, the Environmental Council of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Wild Plant Society, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA/NRCS). Amy Ottilige, local butterfly enthusiast, will also provide information for supporting butterflies in pollinator gardens.
- **3. Explore the grounds:** Clouds Hill Museum will welcome attendees to visit portions of its grounds for viewings of efforts to incorporate pollinator gardens into the environment. Attendees will receive a free mini-packet of wildflower seeds for participating, and other fun activities will take place as well!

No registration is needed, but to learn more, contact the Warwick Office of City Planning, Sue Cabeceiras at 401. 921-9687 or Susan.w.cabeceiras@warwickri.gov or commission member Sue Kennedy at 401.450.2666 or skennedy1168@gmail.com.