



Proclamation

WHEREAS, The City of Gastonia is home to many native wildlife and pollinator species such as birds, bees, and insects which keep our environment healthy and biodiverse; and

WHEREAS, National Pollinator Week is a national initiative that offers opportunities to individuals and communities to help restore native habitat, support local pollinator species; and

WHEREAS, for decades the City of Gastonia has managed urban landscapes and public lands that include many municipal parks and greenways, as well as wildlife habitats; and

WHEREAS, pollinator species are in decline due to habitat loss and the use of pesticides, causing species like the monarch butterfly to decline significantly in the past; and

WHEREAS, pollinator species are essential partners in producing much of food supply, provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy, diverse urban and suburban ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, In urban communities, pollinators play a crucial role in maintaining sustainable urban agriculture and local community gardens; and

WHEREAS, pollination plays a vital role for the trees and plants of our community, enhancing our quality of life, and creating recreational and economic development opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard Franks, Mayor, and the City Council of the City of Gastonia do hereby proclaim the week of **June 17-23, 2024** as our municipality's observance of

NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK

AND, acknowledge the City of Gastonia as an affiliate of

BEE CITY USA ® and support the Mayors Monarch Pledge

We urge all citizens to recognize this observance and join Keep Gastonia Beautiful to help support local pollinators by planting native plant species and restore native habitats and support local pollinator species.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed this the 4th day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four.

Richard Franks, Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne J. Gibbs, City Clerk