

**Therefore Be It Resolved** that, based on the evolving evidence regarding best practices for a balanced approach to pollinator support and turf maintenance, the Common Council of the City of Appleton hereby takes formal action to remove the language in the current code, rescinding the No Mow May program. This includes working with the City Attorney's Office to repeal Ordinance 26-22 adopted on April 6, 2022, and restore Section 12-58 to its form prior to that date in order to enforce the city's long grass ordinance during the entire growing season, including the month of May; and

**Be It Further Resolved**, that the Common Council of the City of Appleton directs city staff to replicate the Slow Mow Summer program information as promoted by the Thousand Islands Environmental Center in Kaukauna, WI, making it compatible with City of Appleton branding. This includes but is not limited to the following actions:

- 1) the permanent posting of Slow Mow Summer graphics and information, branded for the city of Appleton, as in the example found online at <https://1000islandsenvironmentalcenter.org/conservation/slow-mow-summer/> (copy of sample attached) on the City of Appleton's website,
- 2) a monthly posting of this information and/or link to this Slow Mow Summer city website page on at least one City of Appleton social media platform at least once per month each May through November, and
- 3) the development and inclusion of a one-page Support Pollinators document as in the example found online at <https://1000islandsenvironmentalcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Slow-Mow-Flyer.pdf> (copy as example attached) in each year of the city's Public Works Guide.



## SLOW-MOW SUMMER

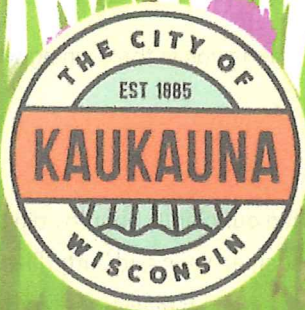
# Support Pollinators All Summer Long

**Raise your lawn mower blade** and maintain your lawn height at 4 inches, mowing only when it reaches 6 inches.

**Plant native flowering plants**, especially those with early season flowers.

**Eliminate or reduce chemicals** on your lawn and other plants.

**Participate in Citizen Science** to help collect data on native pollinators.



## Slow-Mow Summer

**MOVE BEYOND NO MOW MAY TO SUPPORT POLLINATORS ALL SUMMER LONG AND BEYOND!**

Pollinators, including bees, butterflies, birds, bats, and other small mammals, are responsible for 1 of every 3 bites of food you eat. Without these pollinators, our food systems as well as our natural ecosystems are in trouble. Although more research needs to be done to

Autumn brings falling leaves to our yards and lots of work raking them and removing them from the yard. Save yourself, and your municipality, lots of work by leaving the leaves. Leaf litter is an important part of your backyard habitat and a great way to support pollinators. Instead of removing them from your entire yard, leave the leaf litter in your gardens, landscaping or a back corner of your yard for overwintering insects such as bumble bees. Understand more of the benefits [here](#).

## NOVEMBER

As you say farewell to another growing season and prepare for winter, you can also take steps to making the next growing season even better for your backyard pollinators. Late Fall, especially right before your first major snowfall of the winter, is a great time to spread native plant seeds. Many of our native wildflowers need to go through a cold stratification period, or a stretch of time in cold conditions, before they will sprout. Spreading seeds now will set them up for growth in the spring. No space for a wildflower garden in your yard? No problem! Consider planting "bee lawn" seeds within your lawn to make next year's Slow-Mow Summer even more successful. Learn more about Bee Lawns [here](#)!

## CITIZEN SCIENCE

Participate in citizen science programs to help collect data on what you see in your own backyard and community. Check out the following program specific to Bumble Bees:

[Wisconsin Bumble Bee Brigade](#)

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[University of Minnesota Bee Lab](#)

[Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation](#)

[Pollinator Partnership](#)



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# Support Pollinators All Summer Long

with these easy actions you can do in your own yard.



MAR

Leave old garden growth



APR

Plant native plants, trim old growth back to 8-24" heights



MAY

Mow only as needed, ideally maintaining lawn at 4" tall



JUN

Only cut 1/3 of your lawn's height to maintain proper health and root systems



JUL

Mow in the evenings when pollinator activity is lower to reduce disturbance



AUG

Make sure you have a safe water source available in your yard for bees and other pollinators



SEP

Leave old plant growth in place for the winter months



OCT

Leave your leaves!



NOV

Spread native seeds into landscaping or seed your bee lawn



Learn more about how you can help pollinators at home.



# Slow-Mow Summer