

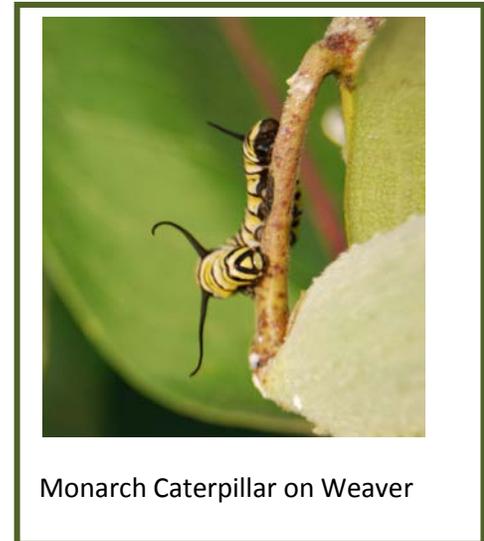
Summary of Port Colborne's Roadside Delay Initiative

On behalf of Port Colborne's Environmental Advisory Committee and myself, we would like to say thanks for your support of the roadside study. Last fall was the ending period of my three year study that I was granted by the city's council.

Study Findings:

Overall my studies have proven that the Monarch habitat on our roadsides can be protected by improved mowing practices. I have counted hundreds of eggs and larva of the Monarch Butterfly on Milkweed along the roads in the study area each year.

These natural strip corridors are also critical for the other pollinators for their food supply, water, and shelter. This past year I have started focusing my attention on other pollinators that can be found along these roads, by installing Native Bee houses.



Monarch Caterpillar on Weaver



Native Green Sweat Bee on Bee house

I've identified over 40 different types of flowers which otherwise would have been mowed down by the July mower cut. These corridors of flowers are critical for providing a constant food supply to all the pollinators until their hibernation.

Fact:

Pollination is required for 2/3 of the food we eat, we need to protect a habitat for the pollinators to ensure future food supply.

How can You Help?

Grow a ditch strip....Let your ditches grow and just cut the side along the road, then make a full cut in October. There are four residents that donated their ditch to pollinators last year, and the bees in the fall took advantage of the bounty!

Start growing native plants, if you need any advice or would like a few plants to get started please contact me!

Future Plans:

I will be going to the April 23rd Council meeting to ask for continuation of my Roadside study in your area. If you have any questions or comments regarding the study please contact me.

Thanks Again

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Ditch strip left to grow for pollinators!