

The Bayside Neighborhood Association (BNA), a nonprofit community neighborhood group located in Portland, Maine is pleased to announce a new initiative called the **Portland Pollinator Partnership**. The mission of the Portland Pollinator Partnership, founded in April 2014, is to protect and expand pollinator habitat in Portland through education, community partnerships, and local projects. Through education and outreach we advocate both for increasing forage and habitat environments for pollinators and for eliminating of pesticides, herbicides, and other chemicals that negatively affect these fragile but vital organisms.

Landscape and Garden Resource List

Besides the "big-box" stores, such as Lowe's and Home Depot, it is hard to know if plant growers are using pesticides, including "Neonics," known to be dangerous to bees. Many "plugs" or small plants, as well as seeds, may be treated.

"As a gardener, you have a unique opportunity to help protect pollinators by avoiding the use of these insecticides, asking your local nursery or garden center if plants have been treated with neonicotinoids, and encouraging your city or park district to use alternatives to neonicotinoids on plants that are visited by bees or are bee-pollinated." – The Xerces Society (www.xerces.org)

Landscaping

Larkspur Design Ecological Gardens and Landscapes with a focus on native plants Yarmouth, Maine (207-227-8641) Iarkspureco.com

Purely Organic Lawn Care Services York, Maine (207-363-1200) purelyorganiclawncare.com

Keystone Horticulturists Portland, Maine (207-797-8733) keystonehort.com

Organic Innovations Landscaping Brunswick, Maine (207-251-9310) organic-innovations.com/

Windy Hill Garden & Design Portland, Maine (207-536-8811 www.windyhillorganic.com

Ecological Landscaping Alliance ecolandscaping.org

Plants

Highland Avenue Greenhouse 109 Highland Ave Scarborough, Maine (883-2861) Local Maine plants and veggies grown with no pesticides. facebook.com/HighlandAvenueGreenhouse

Seeds

The Wild Seed Project A great resource for returning native plants to Maine landscapes wildseedproject.net

Agriculture

Maine Organic Farmers and Growers Association (MOFGA) mofga.org