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Lawns to Legumes Program

Do you want to protect pollinators in your yard? Lawns to Legumes offers free resources for DIYers to learn how to plant pollinator-friendly gardens, meadows, lawns, trees, and shrubs. It also provides cost-share grants to help cover the costs of doing a project. The goal is to help people create habitats for at-risk species like the rusty patched bumble bee and the monarch butterfly.

Historically, the rusty patched bumble bee (Minnesota's state bee), was common in eastern US and the Midwest. Due to factors such as habitat loss, pesticide use, pathogens, and climate, among others, the rusty patched is an endangered species. The monarch (Minnesota's state butterfly), famous for its seasonal migration from Canada and the northern US to Mexico, has experienced similar precipitous drops in its population. These are just two of many pollinator species declining in population in recent years.

Lawns to Legumes started in 2019. In the first two years of the program alone, individual grant participants spent many thousands of hours on at-home planting projects to protect pollinators. They also created more than 3.7 million sq. ft. of pollinator habitat and planted more than 1000 pollinator-friendly trees and shrubs.

Lawns to Legumes is currently taking applications for cost-share grants of up to \$400 to create pollinator habitat for the Fall 2024 cohort.

[To get started with a grant application, click here.](#)

The application deadline for the Fall 2024 Lawns to Legumes Individual Support program is May 15, 2024. Grant recipients will be notified in late May.

Is there something you want to see in the Nature Newsflash, or are you an expert and want to be included in future articles? Send your ideas over to Hannah Lynch, Community Development Coordinator, at hannah.b.lynch@falconheights.org.