



Vision

We envision an Evanston of green spaces welcoming to birds and pollinators, and a community culture that nurtures them and creates, restores and conserves the habitats on which they depend.

Mission [how we implement our vision]

We accomplish our vision by engaging our diverse community and collaborating among all community partners - residents, government, businesses, schools, nonprofits, places of worship, clubs and others - to:

- Certify Evanston as a National Wildlife Federation community habitat;
- Create, restore and conserve habitat that birds and pollinators need to thrive;
- Educate the community regarding the needs of birds and pollinators, such as reducing pesticides and chemical fertilizers and encouraging native plants; and
- Create bird and pollinator friendly habitat corridors that reach across the borders of Evanston to our neighboring communities because creatures like butterflies don't stop at city borders.

Our work is critical because people need a healthy ecosystem in order to thrive. If Evanston is unhealthy for birds and pollinators, it is also unhealthy for people. Further, we rely on bees, butterflies and other insects to pollinate our food and gardens. We need birds to disperse seeds and to keep nuisance bugs at bay in a manner gentle to the environment. Right now, many birds and pollinators are in decline worldwide from pesticides and other chemicals, habitat loss, a changing environment and other threats. Many species that need our help, such as monarch butterflies and Canada warblers, use Evanston habitats in summer or on spring and fall migration. We can help them, and help Evanston.