

###-South Jersey Transportation Authority (SJTA) Policy on Pollinators

Use Effective Date: 1/14/2026

The purpose of this policy is to establish a standard around SJTA's protected wildflower and pollinator zones to ensure that the Authority adheres to its environmental duty to make use of its green spaces.

- I. The selected seed mixes shall abide by the following:
 - a. Selection will be based on what is native to the Coastal Plain, New Jersey region.
 - b. Prioritize native flowers and species diversity, and in less favorable areas select hardier native flowers to ensure a successful bloom. Both selections should have aesthetic and pollinator utility in mind.
 - c. Ensures long bloom duration.
 - d. Utilize prior knowledge of seed survivability to best assess seed purchases and locations.
- II. Wildflower seeding
 - a. Seeds will be spread via a PTO driven broadcast spreader followed by utilizing a drag to establish good seed-soil contact.
 - b. When possible, wildflower zone size is maximized to prevent pollinator habitat fragmentation.
 - c. Site selection for flower areas is based on soil and light compatibility, as well as its proximity to wildlife habitats, including established bird and bat boxes.
- III. Wildflower Plugs
 - a. Utilize SJTA Greenhouse to grow plugs which will increase sensitive species survivability and extend flower growth beyond wildflower meadows.
 - b. Select species based on sight specific qualities and how much their addition will contribute to diversity.
 - c. Plugs will be planted in the spring and fall.
 - d. Watering of plugs will take place as needed during the first year based upon weather.
 - e. Sites will be monitored for 3 years for survivability.
 - f. Plug type and established locations will be documented on a comprehensive map.
- IV. Wildflower maintenance and Landscaping
 - a. Initiate landscaping (mowing), of the wildflower areas in late fall to ensure continued food/shelter sources for pollinators and other wildlife.
 - b. When mowing wildflower areas, once weeds start to seed, cutting will remain at 6-10 inches to reduce invasive weed spread.
 - c. Herbicides will be applied sparingly to wildflower areas, especially during the active seasons.
 - d. Further maintenance of wildflower areas will include prevention of vehicle traffic on seeded areas.

- V. Pollinator housing
 - a. Bee hotel interior is maintained annually to keep nesting areas mold and parasite free.
 - b. Maintain and monitor bird, bat, and bee box habitats for species and maintenance.
 - c. Bee habitat selection is based on its proximity to established wildflower areas.
- VI. Educated selections and applications
 - a. Establish sites on both the Atlantic City Expressway and adjacent roadways to SJTA property.
 - b. Continue to maintain and improve the pollinator and hummingbird gardens and walkways in the Farley Service Center.
 - c. Have pollinator trained employees spearhead or interact with pollinator specific projects.
- VII. Provide educational outreach to the public
 - a. Ensure signage around pollinator and wildflower areas is properly maintained, has engaging verbiage, and visible to the public.
 - b. Include informative topics on native flowers and pollinators on public displays and presentations.
 - c. Prioritize pollinator education at outreach events.
 - d. Continue to improve displays and signage on all pollinator-related projects.
 - e. Promote both new and established efforts on social media and outside reputable media sources.
- VIII. Partner with other agencies
 - a. Request or accept partnerships with outside agencies and maintain good relationships to increase pollinator influence.
 - b. Exchange knowledge with other agencies to gain a better understanding of pollinators, native flowers, and other similar topics.
- IX. Strive to expand on previous projects and set new goals to ensure the Authority is on the cutting edge of green initiatives
 - a. Find new and innovative ways to unitize the SJTA Greenhouse, including wildflower zones.
 - b. Research and stay informed on new sustainable techniques and methods, as well as understanding current topics that concern pollinators and plants.