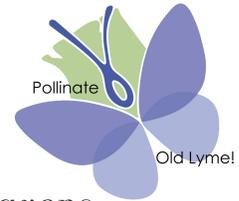


Old Lyme Buzzings



*A special edition highlighting Old Lyme Pollinator Havens
Open to the Public*



Haines Park

*Stop by this park on Rogers Lake to see the "Riparian Buffer Garden" sponsored by the Old Lyme Conservation Commission. This thickly-vegetated water's edge buffer garden of native perennials is an important way to protect against erosion and improve water quality. *Cornus sericea* (red osier dogwood), *Ilex verticillata* (Winterberry), *Kalmia latifolia* (Mountain Laurel), Virginia Rose and *Rudbeckia*, are happy in this sunny location.*

Cross Lane Park

*This Wildlife Garden sponsored by the Junior Women's Club provides a great example of what thrives in a boggy, shaded area. A variety of perennial prairie flowers along the playground fence supports pollinators for multiple months: *Baptisia*, *Echinacea*, *Coreopsis*, *Filipendula rubra* (Queen of the Prairie) and *Eutrochium macaulatum* (Joe Pye, photo.)*



Florence Griswold Museum

*The Artists' Trail at the Museum provides both a walk through history and a walk through various ecosystems and their native plantings. See what is planted in a rainwater garden, a woodland trail, and along the Lieutenant River. See the *kalmia* species planted along the Hedgerow Trail. Miss Florence's flower garden, a Connecticut Historic Gardens property, is lush with blooms throughout the summer season.*



OL-PGN Library

As part of its extensive renovations, the Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library has dedicated a space for a new native pollinator garden of blooms. Planted beds of labeled native species will alternate with accessible decomposed granite paths from the new seating area. Annuals in the meadow will bloom all summer, and the garden beds will be filled with perennials that continually change. The meadow is currently being nurtured in this sunny and dry location; and is being fortified by a cover crop of buckwheat, rye grass, and partridge pea which is improving and preparing the soil for future plantings.

Town Woods Park

The Lyme-Old Lyme Food Share Garden is in its early stages of creating a vegetable garden behind the Town Woods Facility Building. The Garden crew is nurturing a pollinator meadow just outside of the fenced garden to attract a variety of pollinators to the area. Mother Nature has already arranged for you to find milkweed, asters, and rudbeckia here. Vegetables grown here will be contributed to local food banks.



Watch Rock Preserve

*The Old Lyme Land Trust recently planted *Asclepias* (Milkweed) in its Watch Rock Preserve to counter declining populations of milkweed plants and monarch butterflies, both of which are suffering from habitat loss across the United States. Along with L-OL High School Environmental Club volunteers, members planted the milkweed in a sunny field. The Land Trust's preserves offer a broad array of habitats for pollinators and other wildlife.*

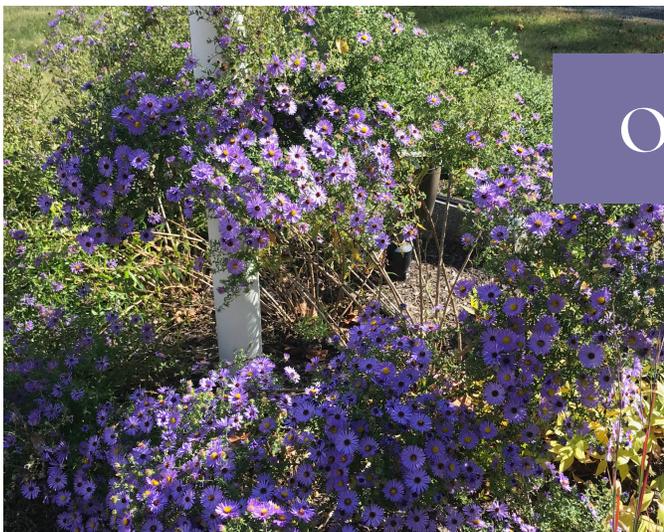
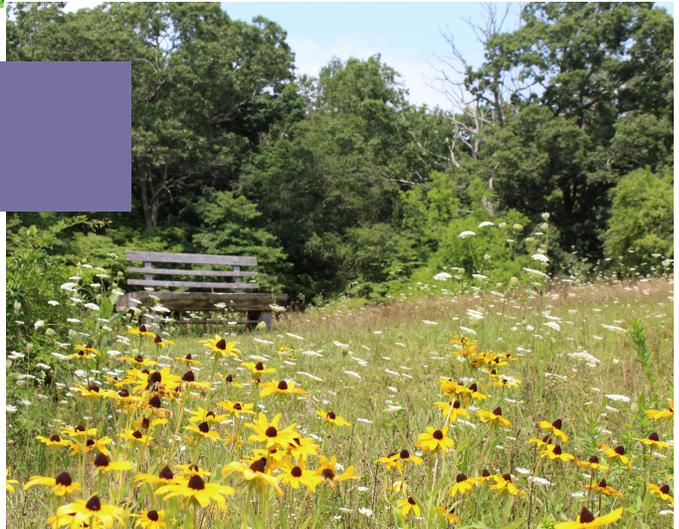


Lyme Art Association

An array of wildflowers and native plants can be found behind the Art Association where the Mile Brook meanders along the west side of the property. Native plants are returning to an area where invasive Knotweed has been removed by "Nix the Knotweed" volunteers. The volunteers are in their second year of a three-year process of cutting back Knotweed three times between May and August. Native plants including wild asters, jewelweed, ferns, red lobelia, Joe Pye, cattails, elderberry, and native viburnum shrubs are now returning on the south end of the property where Knotweed was removed. Additional native perennials will be planted next year as this area is turned into a native plein air painting garden.

McCulloch Family Open Space

Old Lyme's open space properties offer a variety of pollinator habitats. Rook's Meadow at the McCulloch Family Open Space showcases a variety of summer wildflowers including swamp milkweed and fleabane. Groves of Quercus (oak) prove to be some of the most important trees for pollinators; Blue jays store acorns for winter eating and many species of birds feed oak-loving caterpillars to their fledglings every Spring.



Old Lyme Police Station

This Flagpole garden has carefree native pollinator plants that grow in hot, sunny locations. The Duck River Garden Club worked with OL Public Works to remove overgrown Alberta Spruce and day lillies, and replaced them with plantings that pollinators love: Yarrow (Achillea), Red Sea Thrift (Armeria), Star Creeper (Blue pratia), Blue Star (Amsonia), Rockfoils (Saxifraga), Tickseed (Coriopsis), Beard Tongue (Penstemon) and New England Aster.