

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PHOTO ATTACHED

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2017

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER EXPLORES THE
CONNECTION BETWEEN POLLINATORS & PLANTS**



**Somerset County
Park Commission**

Post Office Box 5327
North Branch, NJ 08876

Don DiFrancesco
President

William Crosby
Vice President

Helen "Chickie" Haines

D.J. Hunsinger

Jim Leonard

Doug Ludwig

Kevin McCallen

Dorothy Paluck

Scott Ross

Raymond A. Brown,
Secretary Director

BASKING RIDGE, NJ – Staff at the Somerset County Park Commission Environmental Education Center (EEC) have invited John Black, President of the New Jersey Native Plant Society, to present "Pollinators in Peril – Natives to the Rescue!" The presentation will take place at the EEC, 190 Lord Stirling Road in Basking Ridge, New Jersey on Saturday, April 1, 2017 from 2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Explaining what it means to be a pollinator, the discussion will focus on the connection between pollinators and plants and why some native plants are more important to butterflies and moths. Techniques to attract large numbers of pollinators to home gardens will be outlined. A comparison between honey bees and other pollinators and why some are in peril will also be included in the discussion.

Admission is \$7 per person (\$6 per senior) and pre-registration is requested. For information call 908-766-2489.

The EEC is nestled within the western portion of the Great Swamp and borders the 7,768-acre Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The wide variety of habitats includes: floodplains, swamps, rivers, intermittent streams, marshes, meadows, fields, forests, and natural and man-made ponds providing homes for diverse plant and animal populations in this environmentally sensitive park.

The multi-faceted EEC building is located on 500+ acres of Lord Stirling Park with 8.5 miles of trails and boardwalks, a year-round schedule of programs and exhibits for children and adults, an environmentally-based library, and gift shop.

"The Great Swamp Experience" on the lower level at the EEC features interactive displays, vignettes, taxidermy, and archeological artifacts highlighting the history and ecology of the Great Swamp. The exhibit is open 7 days a week from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Admission is free.

The Environmental Education Center is open seven days each week. Call 908-766-2489 for schedule updates.

Information on Somerset County Park Commission activities and programs visit www.somersetcountyparks.org, or call 908-722-1200.

PHOTO CAPTION: "Pollinators in Peril – Native to the Rescue!." will be presented at the Environmental Education Center, 190 Lord Stirling Road in Basking Ridge, New Jersey on Saturday, April 1, 2017.

PRESS CONTACT: Rich Reitman 908-526-1390

HEADQUARTERS

355 MILLTOWN ROAD
BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807

TEL: 908.722.1200

FAX: 908.722.6592

NJ Relay 711

For the hearing/speech impaired

www.somersetcountyparks.org

reitman@thereit
mangroup.com