

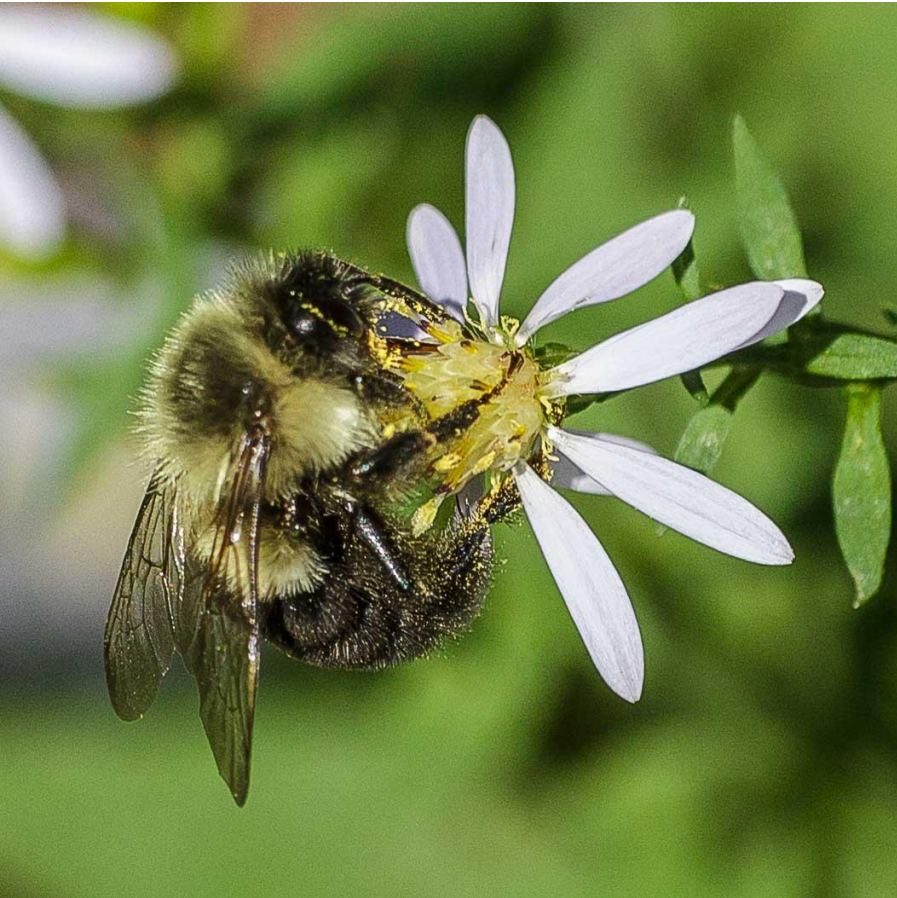
Improving Habitat and Resiliency One Garden at a Time



North American bird populations have declined 29% since 1970



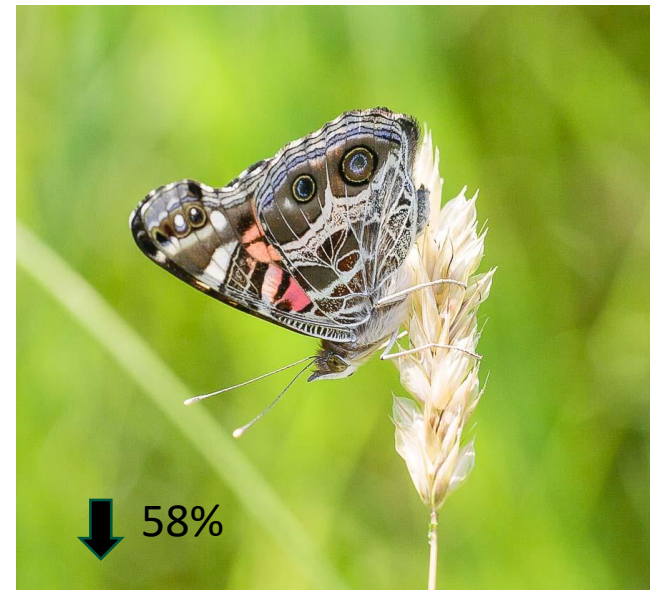
Linked to Insect Apocalypse



- More than 40% of insect species are declining worldwide
- The total mass of insects is falling by 2.5% a year
- Insect populations in Germany dropped by more than 75 % over the last 30 years

U.S. Butterflies are Declining

- Butterfly populations in the contiguous United States decreased by 22.4% between 2000 and 2020
- The decline in the northeastern U.S. was worse: 32.6%
- Likely causes: Habitat loss, pesticides, climate change



Reason for Hope

- Monarch population in the northeastern U.S. increased by 79% between 2000 and 2020
- Some southern butterflies are increasing their population in the north



Extreme Weather is the New Normal

New Jersey is experiencing both excessive rainfall events and drought

- In Lambertville, excessive rainfall causes river and flash flooding
 - More frequent hurricanes, tornadoes producing heavier rain and wind damage
 - Non-tropical-storm rain events resulting in frequent flooding
- Drought may cause wells to run dry

The Good News

*Each of us
can take action
to help reverse these trends!*

These actions are not
difficult or expensive!

Use native plants on our
properties

Replace lawn with native
plants



Plants Support Life

PRODUCE OXYGEN,
SEQUESTER CARBON

MODERATE TEMPERATURE

LEAVES, TWIGS, BRANCHES
ABSORB SOUND AND BLOCK
EROSION-CAUSING RAINFALL

BRANCHES, LEAVES
PROVIDE SHADE AND REDUCE
WIND SPEED

FOOD, MEDICINE,
BUILDING MATERIALS
FOR PEOPLE

FOOD, MEDICINE,
HABITAT,
NESTING MATERIALS
FOR ANIMALS
(EVEN DEAD PLANTS!)

LEAVES
FILTER DANGEROUS
POLLUTANTS FROM
THE AIR

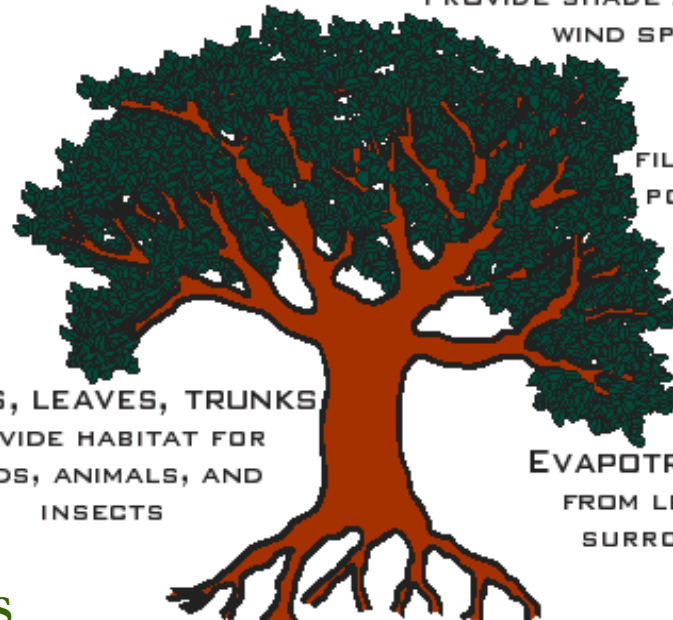
STABILIZE SOIL
PREVENT EROSION

ROOTS, LEAVES, TRUNKS
PROVIDE HABITAT FOR
BIRDS, ANIMALS, AND
INSECTS

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION
FROM LEAVES COOLS
SURROUNDING AIR

RECYCLE NUTRIENTS

GROUNDWATER
RECHARGE,
MITIGATES FLOODING

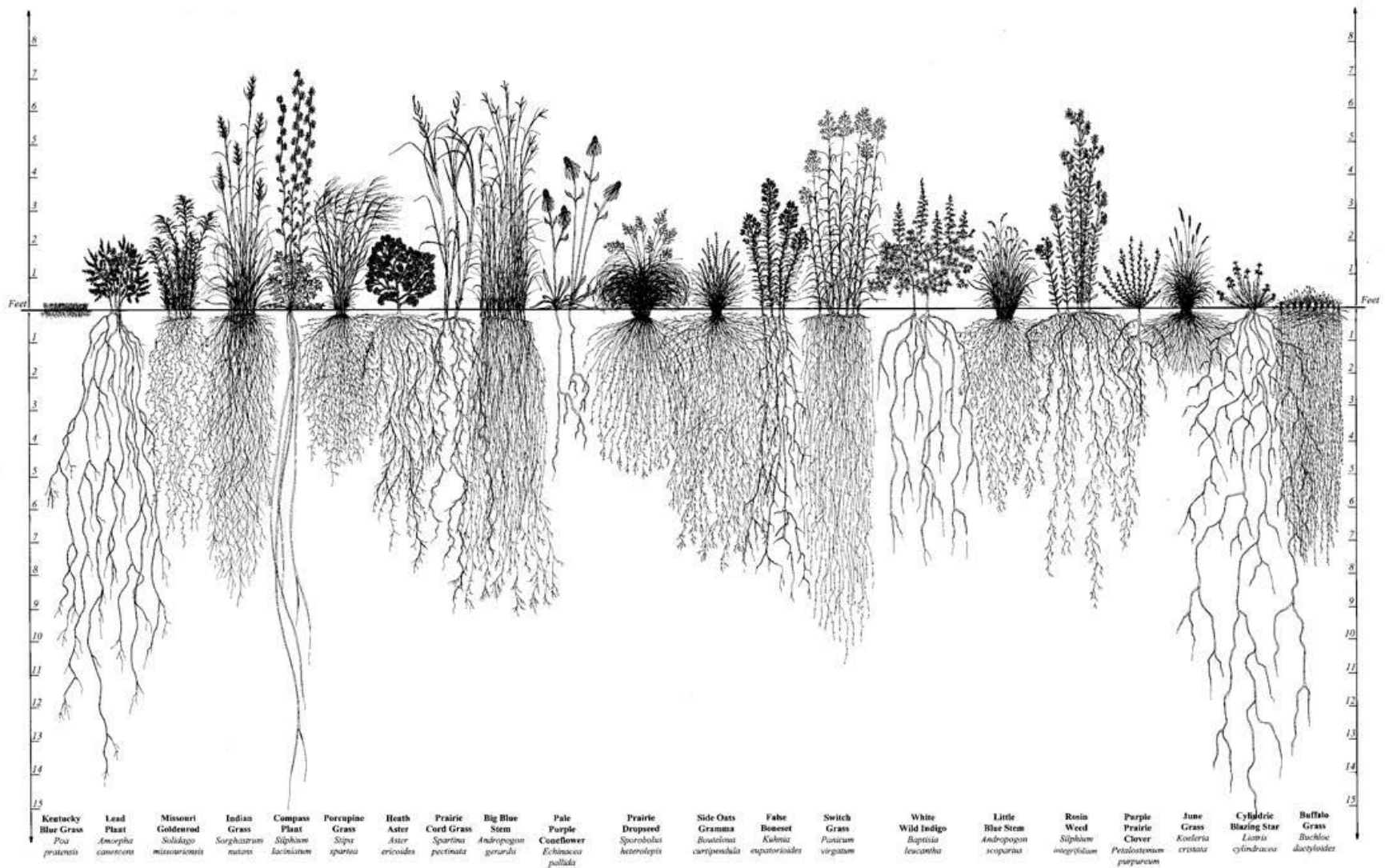


ROOTS

STABILIZE SOIL, PREVENT EROSION

Essential in Mitigating Climate Change

Stormwater Management



Why native plants?



Lambertville's Effort Started in 2017
Certification by National Wildlife Federation
Held Since 2019

Lambertville
Goes Wild



What does that take?

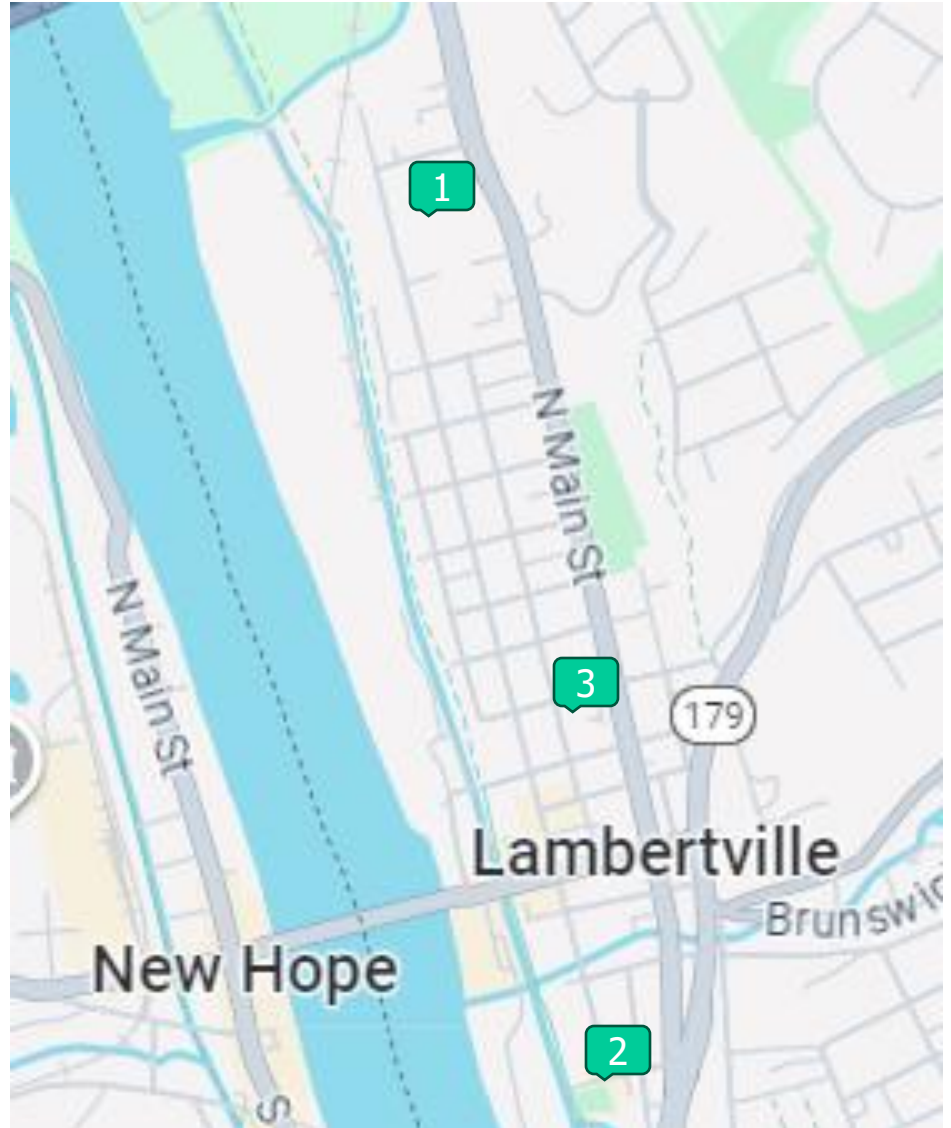
- Lots of educational programs
- Holding native plant sales in Lambertville
- Persuading residents to use native plants and certify their gardens
- Planting school gardens
- Demonstration gardens on City property
 - ANJEC funding was key

ANJEC Funded 3 Strategic Gardens

1. 2019 - Cherry Street Park
2. 2022 - Cavallo Park Rain Garden
3. 2024 - Mary Sheridan Park

Projects are a partnership:

- Parks & Rec
- Environmental Commission
- Lambertville Goes Wild
- Many Volunteers



Cherry Street Park



Cherry Street Park



Cavallo Park Rain Garden



Cavallo Park Rain Garden



Mary Anne Bo



Mary Anne Borge

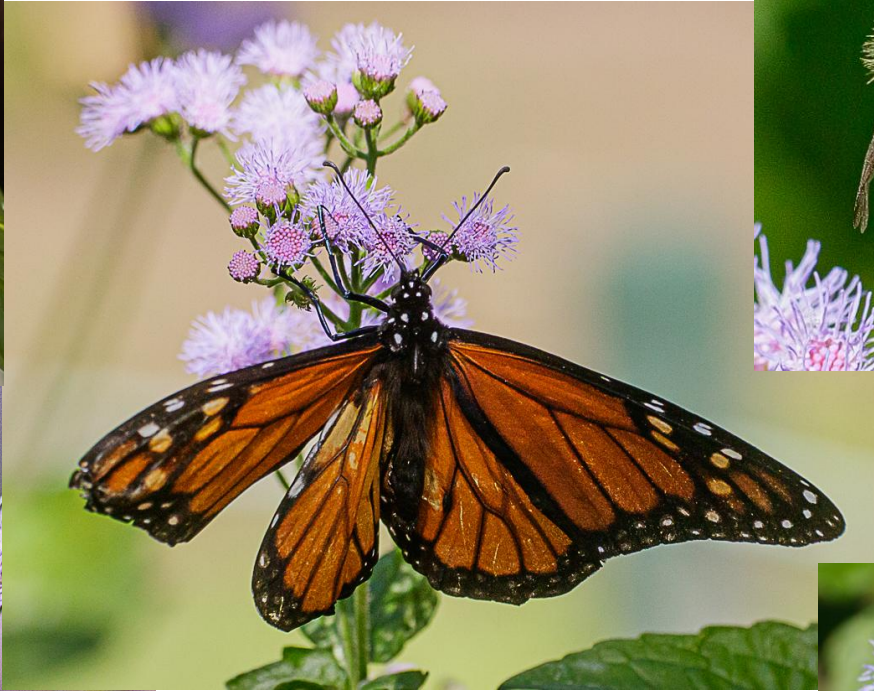


Mary Anne Borge

Mary Sheridan Park



Mary Sheridan Park



We're not finished!

- In progress:
 - Rebate program for residents who replace lawn with native plants
 - Green infrastructure project to increase habitat while managing stormwater, sequestering carbon
- Planned:
 - More gardens
 - Riparian buffer planting
 - More green infrastructure projects

This work is never done!

Thank you, ANJEC!

