

# What is Vibrana?

Vibrana is an organization that supports the efforts to create more vibrant cities. Our Purpose is to inspire and educate people to utilize their land to better their own needs as well the futures community ecology. We want to encourage younger generations to get more involved in their environment, so that they can see the changes that will come and benefit from them. In doing so, we hope that this generation will pass on the knowledge that they

have gathered on the environment and sustainable practices to future generations, so that cities can be healthier places to thrive. We believe that any one at any economic level can do something to help our environment. If we all work together, we can watch our cities grow. It does not have to be spending money on expensive products to live a more sustainable life, rather it is just making small lifestyle changes to make a big impact.

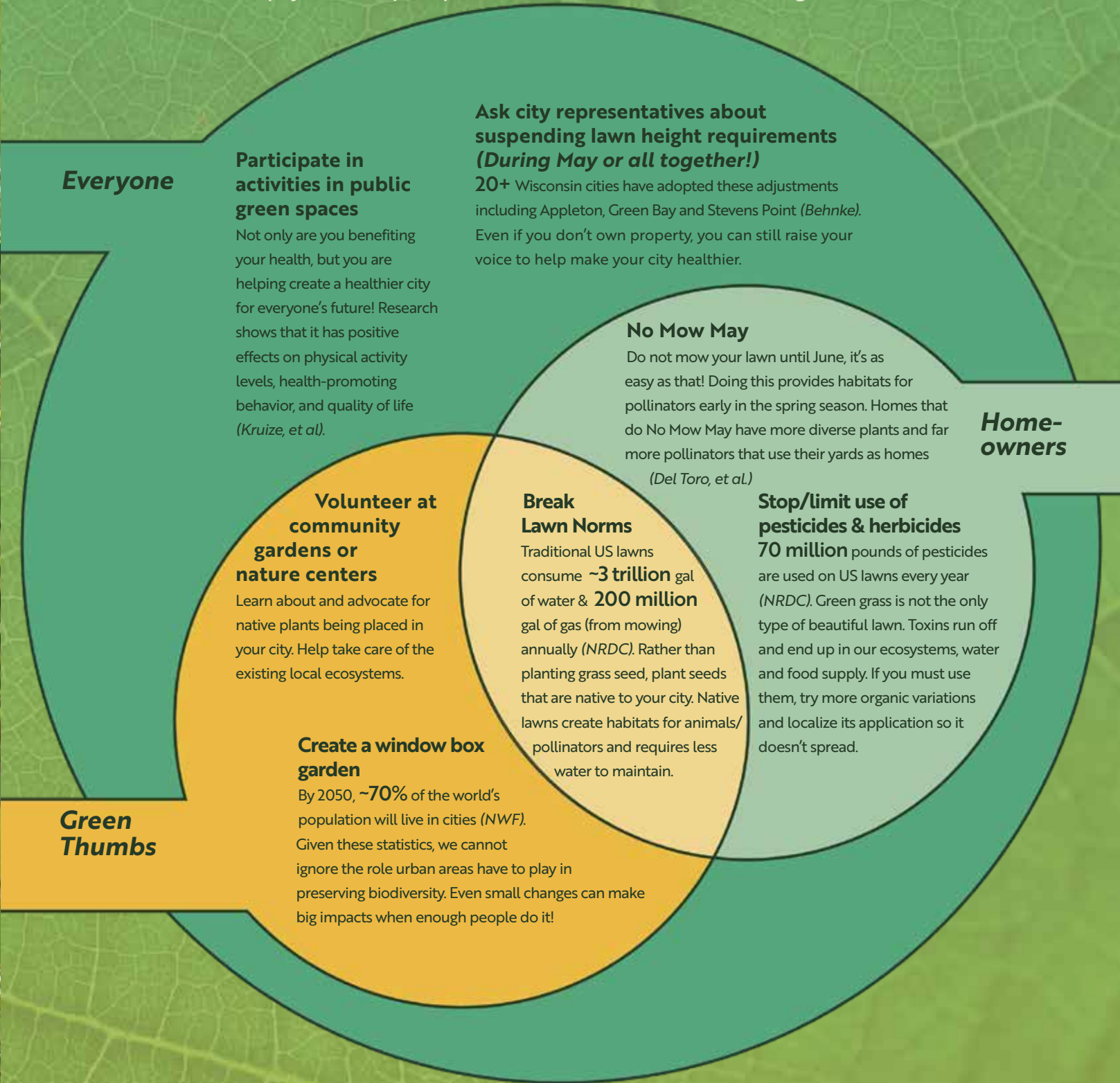
*We create healthier cities and educate the public on native species for our environments well being.*

*Our Purpose is to inspire and educate people to utilize their land to better their own needs as well the futures community ecology.*



# DON'T BE A WEEDIST

A weedist looks down on native plants that grow in their yard that aren't traditional grass. Many "weeds" are beautiful and help pollinators/the ecosystems they live in. By following a few simple steps you can help our future environment and watch our cities **grow!**



**NOW YOU'RE AN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE WARRIOR**

*As leaves  
fall bare  
from trees,  
parade our paths, they  
refuge a shelter for our  
smallest neighbors, they  
blanket our grounds for  
coming frost. As winter  
flourishes, our soils are  
nourished. Snow melts  
away and reveals  
spring in full swing and  
life begins to sing.*

*-Chris Bound*

## *Cream False Indigo*

**Baptisia Bracteata**

*bumblebees  
visit this plant to  
reach into the  
pea-like flowers*



*caterpillars of skipper  
butterflies eat the  
leaves of this plant*

# In The Weeds with Caitlin Reinartz

Members of the Vibrana team ventured to the Milwaukee Urban Ecology Center to see how easy it is to get involved and listen to some expert advice. They met forester Caitlin Reinartz whose passion for conservation radiates around her. She revealed that the day's mission was to remove invasive species from the prairie landscape. She explained how environmental stewardship combines a balance of letting nature take control and intervening when needed. Caitlin emphasized to the volunteers that "This is your park - you own it". Public parks are for the community and taking ownership of them promotes pride and a desire to interact with and improve them. The team was there for less than two hours but left feeling proud of the work they accomplished, impacting their moods for the rest of the day. The group of volunteers ranged from all different ages and backgrounds but were all united with a common goal of helping the environment. The day ended with high fives and smiles and plans to return in the near future. It



The team worked in the areas surrounding this walking path.

didn't take much time, but it provided a break from the structured schedules we rarely stray away from and allowed the team to take a moment to enjoy the beautiful environment surrounding them. When asked how to get the public to care about conservation Caitlin explained that "if you are excited about a topic, people will remember you, even if they initially had no intention of it, even if it's like that girl was goofy. They will keep thinking about your interaction and what you said". Providing a shift from what's expected breaks the ice and invites people to engage in ways they might not have before. Many people are unsure about volunteering, especially in environmental settings because they are not experts and don't even know where to start. Luckily, there are attainable opportunities and passionate leaders who would love to guide you just like this all over different communities, it's just a matter of looking and taking the plunge.



Some of the invasive plants the team removed.



# Woodland Sunflower

*Helianthus divaricatus*

The Woodland Sunflower is a perennial in the aster family. They are native to North America. They attract many pollinators, such as butterflies, songbirds, mourning doves and, other small mammals.

They can range in height anywhere from 2ft. to 7ft. tall. In order to grown, they require partial shade, meaning only direct sunlight for part of the day. They are known to be relatively low maintenance, and can often be found in butterfly gardens.



## Speculative Thinking

In the warmer months, you seemingly can't walk through your neighborhood without seeing posted lawn signs advertising countless landscaping companies that have worked on your neighbors' lawns.



In most areas, companies are required to post a sign informing the use of pesticides on a property that must stay up for at least 24 hours after application. This is because contact with the chemicals before it is dry can cause health problems, especially for children and pets. But once the 24 hours are up, the dangers associated with the chemical treatment do not magically disappear. The pesticides/herbicides they apply eventually run off into our water systems impact the immediate surrounding ecosystems, and also find their way into our food systems.

*If your neighbors' signs included more straightforward phrasing would you mindlessly walk past them as easily?*

# What if all native plants... *disappeared?*



## **Erosion**

*Native plants have strong root systems that add structure to the surrounding soil.*



## **Decrease in wildlife population**

*Many animals rely on native plants for food and shelter*



## **Disruptions in agriculture**

*A lot of foods rely heavily or entirely on pollinators.*

# Pollinator Profile:

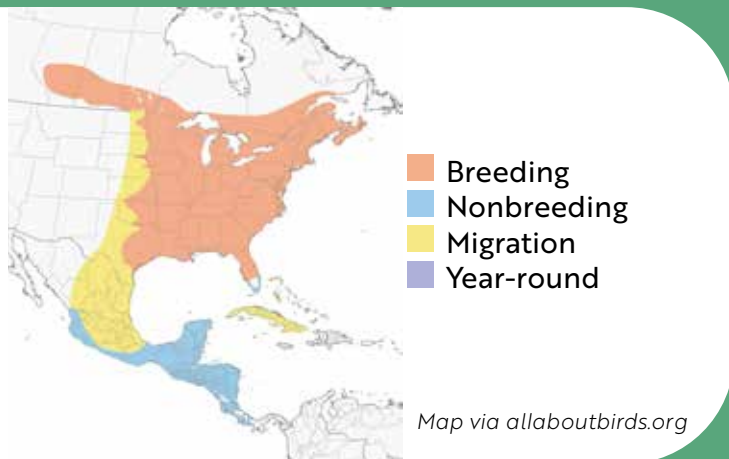
## Ruby-Throated Hummingbird



**Scientific name:** Archilochus colubris  
**Size:** 3.5 inches  
**Conservation Status:** Least Concern  
**Region:** Eastern United States and Mexico

Despite being one of the smallest birds in the world, hummingbirds hold an important job. When people think of pollinators, they often only think of bees, but hummingbirds are also huge contributors. Their long slender beak helps to collect nectar from flowers. As they drink, pollen sticks to their feathers and they carry it onto the next flower they visit. They have a strong memory and return to locations they have been

to before after enough time has passed to replenish the nectar. There are many species of hummingbirds but the most common in North America is the Ruby-Throated Hummingbird. They have amazing eyesight and favor brightly colored flowers. Some of their favorites are tube shaped flowers such as wild bergamot and cardinal flower. Males have the ruby coloring on their throat while the females have white throats.



# How Can You Get Involved?

## VOLUNTEER



*Volunteering is easy! All you have to do is sign up either in person or through the places website. The only thing that*

*you are spending is your time, and by spending this time volunteering, you are helping create healthier cities!*

There are many places that you can find within any city to volunteer at. In Milwaukee there are so many options. All you need is a way to get to the volunteer location, whether that is driving, walking, or public transportation. **Some options include:**

- *CleanWisconsin ([cleanwisconsin.org](http://cleanwisconsin.org))*
- *Urban Ecology Center ([urbanecologycenter.org](http://urbanecologycenter.org))*
- *Groundwork Milwaukee ([groundworkmke.org/volunteer](http://groundworkmke.org/volunteer))*
- *River Revitalization Foundation (<https://www.riverrevitalizationfoundation.org/join-us/community-engagement/>)*
- *Schlitz Audubon Nature Center (<https://www.schlitzaudubon.org/get-involved/volunteer/>)*







# Blue Wood Aster

## *Symphyotrichum cordifolium*

Perennial native to central and eastern North America.

The center disk flowers are yellow until pollinated, then turns pink

Despite the name, rays can be blue, white or violet

oval shaped leaves closer to the top

Heart shaped leaves near bottom



Hosts silvery checkerspot butterfly caterpillars, and provides nectar to an array of butterflies, bees and moths.

# Common Milkweed

## *Asclepias syriaca*

Essential for Monarch caterpillars

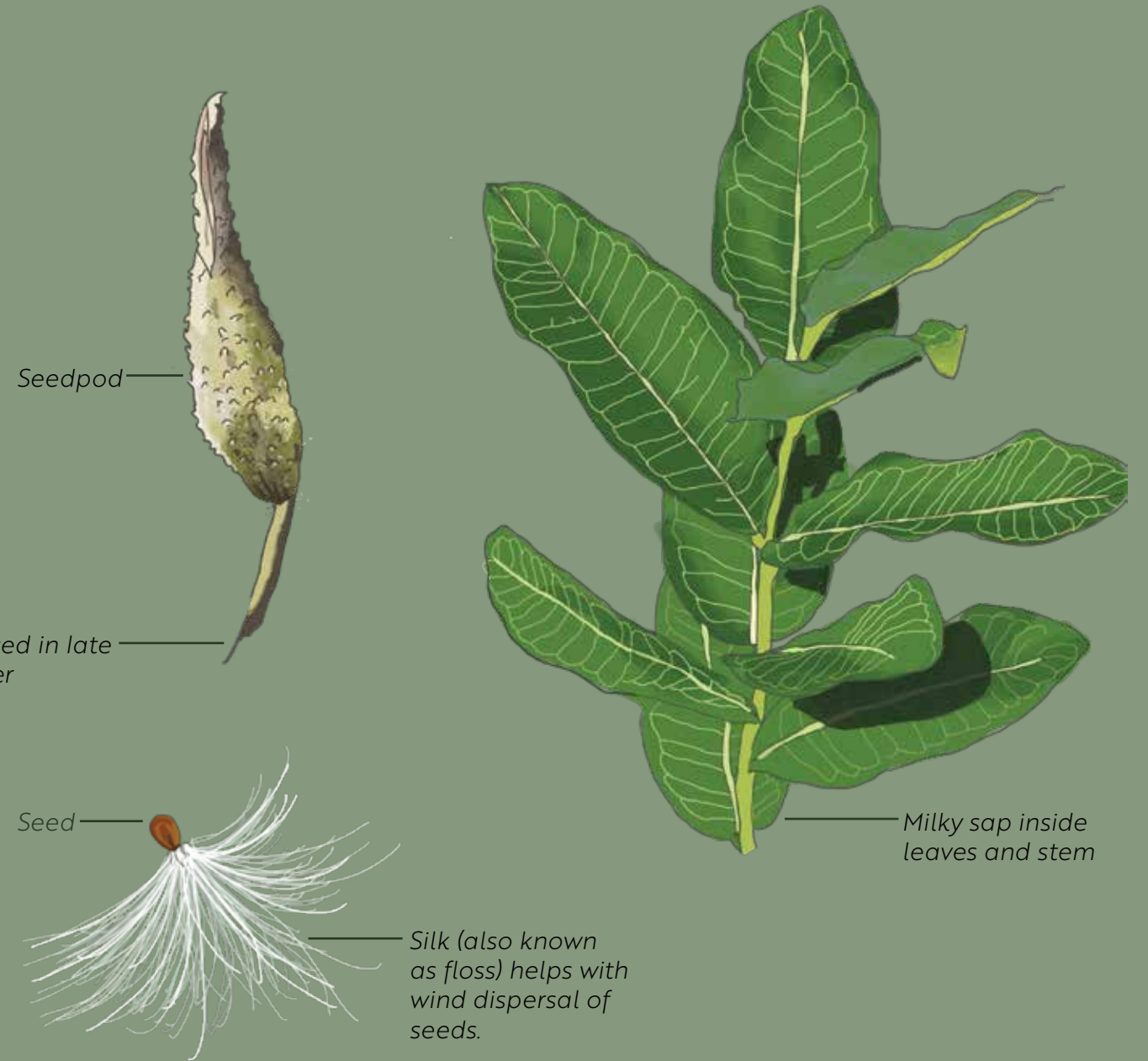
Seedpod

Produced in late summer

Seed

Silk (also known as floss) helps with wind dispersal of seeds.

Milky sap inside leaves and stem

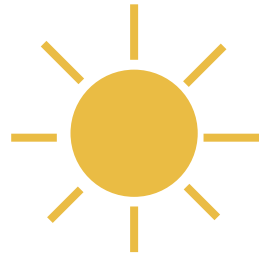


HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

# Make Small Changes In Your Home

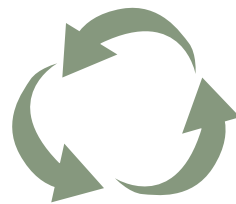
WHEN YOU CAN CHOOSE TO USE NATURAL LIGHT RATHER THAN SWITCHING YOUR LIGHTS ON.

This will conserve energy and reduce your bills. This is a free way for anyone to get involved in living more sustainably.



REUSE CONTAINERS AND PACKAGING.

This allows for less plastic waste in our environment, and again, it saves money! Rather than buying new containers every time, invest in some good glass containers, that will last for years.



START A GARDEN IN YOUR HOUSE OR IN YOUR BACKYARD.

Not all homes have backyards, but one can grow plants like tomatoes in a pot in their home. If there is the space to start a garden in the yard, start growing vegetables. This will create more resources for humans, and help consumers be more aware of what they are consuming.



# Enviromental Justice Warriors

## Adrian Spinks

Adrain Spinks is a photographer from Cornwall, England who's based in Wisconsin as well East Sussex, England. He has been to over 40 nations on every continent except Antarctica. His photography is one of his many pursuits including diving where he took to underwater photography as well photography above the water. Vibrana conducted an interview with him to get his unique opinion on sustainability as a newfound wisconsinite as well his experiences overseas as well under them.



# Questions/Answers

*Do you think we are heading in right Direction for our planet?*

*"I do yes, and youth is the key to future. I believe that our biggest issue is that we are so divided. We need to come to the middle of the road for people to agree. As well something that isn't destructive financially because no one wants to pay for more. We have a lot of great ideas but sometimes they aren't attainable with current resources or the backing of the people."*

*In your experience diving what are the biggest problems the ocean is facing.*

*"Rubbish. Trash is a huge issue that our oceans face in some nations people are accustomed to disregarding their trash into waterways. When it was disregarding trash that was biodegradable it made sense, but plastic use is used for everything and now we can't keep up with it. It affects everything, especially wildlife turtles mistake plastic bags for jellyfish which they eat. Some dive sites I've been too have had trash everywhere especially tourist spots."*

*What would you do to change these problems?*

*"Giving a rebate for Recycling. When I was a child, we could collect cans and glasses and in return we could get money. It*

*would motivate people to recycle as well as helping people get money. We won't ever stop the crisis but trying to manage it we can do."*

*Are there any other opinions you hold about the future?*

*"I love cars, it's another hobby of mine. I think the move to electric is a wonderful Idea, but people need to realize how much harm it puts on the world to harvest as well create them. People need to look beyond the car. Blue Tech is being used for petrol at Mercedes where they modify pig urine to help the reduction of emissions."*





# Helpful Practices

## Recycling

Correct disposal of waste and Recycling will help clean our cities as well protect our ecosystems. Not to mention you can repurpose goods for your own needs giving them another life is a smart sustainable practice anyone can do!

## Volunteering

Often overlooked or thought to be a very large time commitment. Volunteering can be as simple as a hour a week or even donating. Getting involved in being a part of your community will make the difference to be a part of your community. Taking care of your home should be a priority!

## Mindfulness

Mindfulness can be a practice that you incorporate into your daily practices from big to small. Whether it be cutting up the plastic 6 pack container before disposal or even picking up trash if you see it! Even watching how much water you use while showering or brushing your teeth! All these things make a difference so be a part of something good!



# Harmful Practices

## Pesticides

Pesticides use is linked to harm to humans, pollinators as well our ecosystems. Run off from pesticides is found both in agricultural areas as well urban environments. Being able to not use pesticides will only help the betterment of both humans as well the natural environment we live in.

## Littering

Unproper disposal of trash and recyclable goods is directly linked to deaths in native species on land and in water. Correct disposal of waste is crucial to our future. Don't be a litter bug!

## Emissions

Emissions from vehicles create pollution globally. Reducing the number of emissions, we create will help us pave the way for the future and allow us to live healthier lives. While it isn't always possible to not use a car or something to align with your daily routine, being able to know when and when not to use your car is important to keep in mind.

**CAUTION**  
**PESTICIDE APPLICATION**



**CUSTOMER: Please remove after 48 hours.**

# Nonprofit Organization Spotlight:

## Riverview Gardens Appleton, WI

For over 120 years the land in the heart of Appleton, Wisconsin was being used as a country club and golf course. That all changed in 2011 when the land was purchased with a brighter future in mind. The visionaries behind the Riverview Gardens wondered: *What if this land was used to better all the surrounding community, not just club members?* With an ambitious vision, the organization's founders saw the land's potential and had a goal of transforming it into a community garden, aiming to provide a place to grow, for more than just plants.



**RIVERVIEW  
GARDENS®**  
a place to grow

- Multiple locations
- Greenhouses
- Community center for events
- Beekeeping facilities
- School outreach programs for at risk youth
- Culinary programs for kids and adults

This project would require a lot of time and energy as the land was riddled with pesticides to maintain the golf course's clean-cut aesthetic. They wanted to provide the absolute best for their community by ensuring the food they would produce would be organic and not take on the remnants of the chemicals used to treat the course. This process took multiple years of hard work.

The gardens are predominantly run by volunteers and marginalized community members that participate in outreach work programs. The specially designed programs provide the community members with real-world job training and fresh food so they can get back on their feet while being a part

of something bigger than themselves. They form a sense of belonging and purpose when they see their work directly improve the community they live in. They work hands-on in the gardens, but also learn how to build healthy workplace relationships. Many come from difficult backgrounds including incarceration and housing instability. This does not matter once they enter the gardens. Everyone is treated with dignity and respect no matter their past. This outlook helps the community members to feel a sense of belonging and pride for the gardens and provides them with a fresh start.

This innovative system helps all parts of the community, from addressing food deserts, helping people out of poverty, and improving the environment by creating a place for vegetation to flourish without harmful chemicals ruining local ecosystems. Their organization model is multifaceted and deeply wants to see their community succeed. They offer an "Earn-a-bike" program where community members can receive a bike in exchange for volunteer hours. This provides them with sustainable transportation which can open the door to job opportunities they didn't have

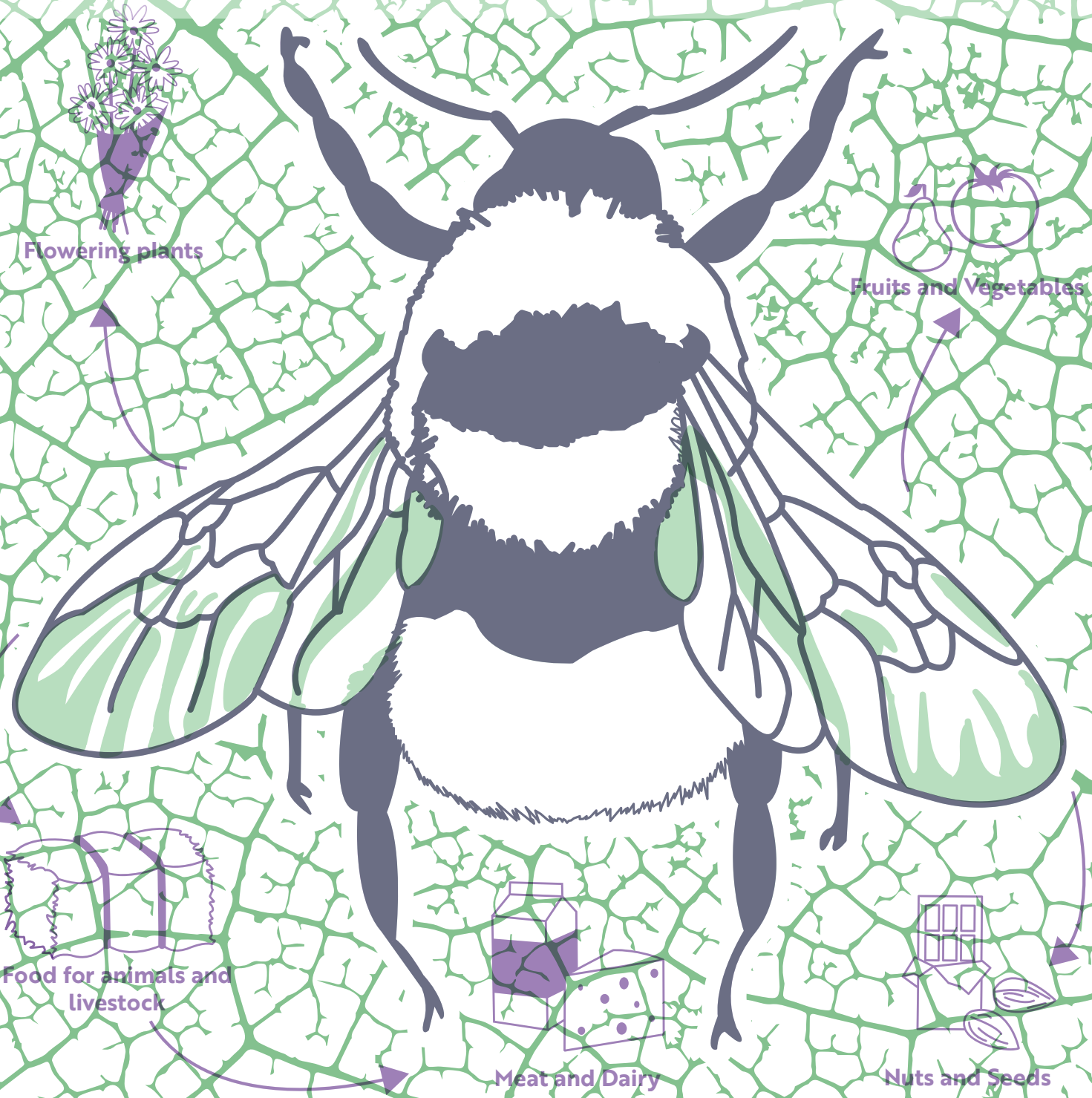


access to prior. Riverview Gardens offer subscription-based seasonal produce for those financially able, but also provide a plethora of food to local food pantries, shelters, and partner with organizations such as Feeding America. Over the past decade, the organization has rapidly grown and has touched thousands of people's lives.

**In 2021, Riverview Gardens provided  
30,325 pounds  
of fresh produce  
to Feeding America,  
food pantries & shelters.**



Our planet would look very different without the help of pollinators



WORLDWIDE  
COMMUNITY

it's just a bug connected to everything.

## Pollinator Profile

# Goldenrod Solider Beetle

## Chauliognathus Pensylvanicus

*These beetles commonly referred to as "Goldenrod Soldier Beetles" are indigenous to Wisconsin. While they are not the first to come to mind for pollinators they are crucial to our ecosystems. Commonly found on goldenrod flowers hence the name. They feed on pollen primarily and nectar of flowers as well as small insects. They do not bite or sting and are completely harmless to humans. The adults may be seen from July to September but are most abundant in August.*



## Business Profile

# ReFresh MKE

ReFresh MKE is the city of Milwaukee's official sustainability plan. They are focused on the environmental, economic, and social aspect of sustainability. Part of their initiative is to emphasize how one of each of these aspects effects the others at the same time. One of the main issues when it comes to land that they have found in Milwaukee is the amount of vacant lots. These areas have no buildings, no gardens, nothing. Part of their plan is to find a way to reuse these empty lots.

This would create more resources for the citizens of Milwaukee. Whether these spaces are filled with community gardens, the soil is renewed and new trees are planted, or they are used as outdoor learning environments, they will benefit our communities. They will provide shelter for pollinators, create resources for humans to consume, and allow us to educate future generations to come.

To learn more about ReFresh MKE's plan to make Milwaukee a healthier city visit: <https://staticwebfiles.milwaukee.gov/main/citygov/refreshmke/plan.html>





Environmental Justice Warriors  
**Coe Douglas**



Coe Douglas is a multi-disciplinary artist who focuses strongly on work that will have a positive impact on our environment. Much of his work relies on storytelling to inspire and spark curiosity in his audience. Douglas is from Milwaukee Wisconsin, and currently teaches an University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, in the Design and Visual Communications department.



*What sparked your interest in focusing on sustainable design?*

“Well first of all I have an interest in ecological things and the environment. I became more keenly aware of what the implications are of what we put into the world and what my clients put into the world. Everything around us is designed. The built environment is designed. I would say my interest is still unfolding.”

*Can you speak about a project you have done that focuses on sustainability?*

“The Tending to Moral project that I am working on with Trudy Watt, is talking how we can be actively involved in cultivating the future. We are using a storytelling process and looking at climate refugee influx from the coast to our area. They are anticipating a 16% or more increase of population in the next 20 years from the influx of climate refugees. I have students speculating on what that world might look like and what it is going to feel like. We are also focused on the idea of mutual care. Caring for others beyond ourselves. We can't afford to be selfish”



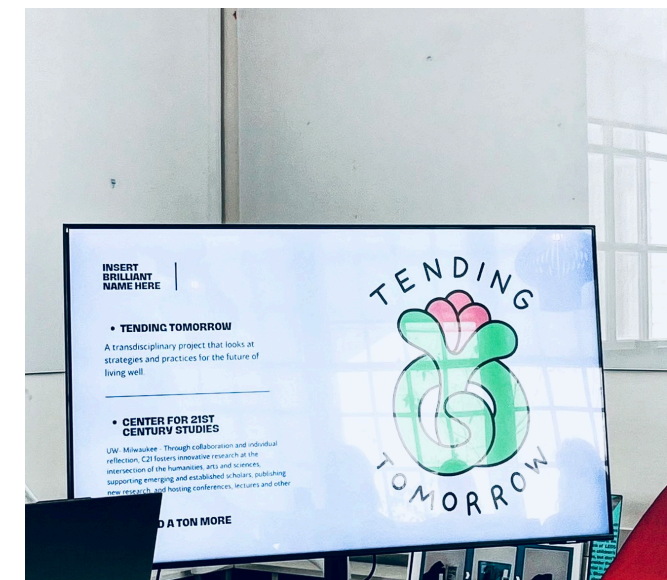
*What change do you want to see in the future? Is there a specific aspect of the environment that you're most focused on?*

“The invisible aspects of this. What I mean by that, is the notion of the more than human design idea. Everything is alive, these trees are alive. These birds, these plants, they are living things that we need to survive. This idea of solidarity with non-human people, the idea of re-enchanting the world, and bringing back wonder. We are part of a living ecosystem, we need new eyes to see the world around us.



*Do you think companies that greenwash are having a negative impact on peoples attempts to live more sustainably?*

“Yes, I think that is huge. It makes people cynical. You buy this product because you think it is better, to just realize that it is not actually better, but that it is terrible for the environment. You start to question everything. This is a very large systemic issue that is going to take a lot of small decisions overtime to revise what these cities and communities look like.



# Steeplebush

## *Spiraea tomentosa*

*Steeplebush is a shrub indigenous to northern America it is native to wet meadows, wet pastures, boggy areas, marshes, fields, and lake margins. It is referred to as steeple bush for the shape that the buds of the flower create tiny pink to rose-to-rose-purple flowers in dense, steeple-shaped growing vertically. The blooming period occurs from mid-summer to early fall and lasts about 1-2 months.*



WATCH  
OUR  
CITIES  
GROW  
VIBRANA

A stylized illustration of a Steeplebush plant with a butterfly perched on a flower. The plant has a green stem and several long, narrow, green leaves. The flower is a light purple color. The butterfly is black and yellow with white markings on its wings. The background is a solid brown color.

# Business Profile

## The Glass Pantry

*The Glass pantry is a shopping center that aims to eliminate waste while still acquiring the pantry staples you need. The idea is that you bring containers for everything. All you must do is bring clean containers that you have recycled and or purchased, making it easier than ever. Promoting healthier living in cities as well as better practices that aim to improve our communities. In the walkers point area it is made accessible to everyone.*



*The Glass Pantry  
1039 S 5th Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53204*

*Monday Closed  
Tuesday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Wednesday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Thursday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Sunday 11:00 am - 4:00 pm*

# Meet the Environmental Justice Warriors:

## Shalaco of SFinBloom



Partners, Shalaco and Phoenix created SFinBloom to share their love of spreading native wildflower seeds with others. They participate in something called guerilla gardening or cultivating plants in neglected public spaces. They repurpose parmesan cheese shakers and toy guns to release native seeds all over their community. In addition to educating the public about the importance of native plants and providing gardening workshops, their brand has expanded into selling seed mixes specifically crafted for different regions of the United States. Their efforts continue to grow across the world and inspire people to care about conservation.

### Questions/Answers

**Some things that sets you apart from other people trying to spread the word about the importance of native plants is the gamification of the process, from seed guns to shakers and bee costumes.**

**How did you think of these ideas?**

Ideas are like fish! You put your mind out there and they just pop into it. I have always been innovative and imaginative in nature. Phoenix is more education based. I am always reimagining how things can work in different ways. The shakers started because I was in Goodwill and saw a shaker. It looked similar to the containers the seeds we had were in but would be easier to use. It could easily fit in someone's pocket. As for the seed guns, I just saw toy guns and wondered if we could use them for seeds.

**How have these techniques changed people's perspectives on conservation/native plants?**

These ideas align with our mission of making conservation accessible. Often times conservation is put on a pedestal, it feels out of reach for some. Introducing play makes it approachable and accessible. It crosses cultures, languages, and ages. We all like nature's magic trick of taking a small seed and seeing it grow into something. It also shows how one person can make a change. A lot of people suffer from eco-anxiety - *do I save the whales or penguins first?* Spreading seeds seem effortless so it's attainable for everyone.

**Have you seen a transformation in the pride people have for their community after they help beautify it with wildflowers?**

Yeah I think what we do is promote civic pride but make it sexy. Even when we plant and they just watch us, they have so much gratitude for what we are doing.

**It's easy to get young generations excited about caring for the environment when you show them these fun and engaging practices, are older generations more resistant or do they share the same excitement?**

It sparks joy for all ages. I have given 90-year-old women seed guns and I see the same spark. It has the appeal of shower thoughts. Like, "I should have thought of that!"



SFinBloom wildflower seed shaker.

**You have grown up knowing the importance of nature. There are many kids in urban environments that do not have access to natural landscapes. Have you seen your efforts open their minds to just how important nature is?**

I have given shakers to kids in cities who can't even talk yet, but I can point to a seed and point to a flower and tell them "this makes that." I think that any way we can get people outside of their worlds of technology and show people the importance of nature is helpful.

**Have you dealt with people uprooting the flowers you planted just because they feel they shouldn't belong there?**

I've only really had issues when people are unsure of the difference between weeds and native plants. They think they are being helpful and remove plants. It then becomes a nice teaching moment. All people I have interacted with who have seen me planting thank me. It's a common way for me to have a touch point with people. Even if people are standoffish at first, it's usually because they are protective, then realize how its helping the common good.

Keep up with  
Shalaco and Phoenix's  
adventures @sfinbloom  
on all platforms.

**When you interact with people on the street, do they often become a more active part of your community and engage with you more when they see you again?**

When I get recognized it started off with a lot of "oh you're the seed guy" then I started to have people say "hey you're SFinbloom" and know our names. I carry seeds and stickers around with me for people who say hi. So far it's a comfortable level of publicity. If they come up to me they are excited about what we are doing.

**You focus primarily on spreading wildflower seeds, how does that differ from creating edible lawns/gardens like fellow guerilla gardener Ron Finley?**

Ron Finley is known as the gangster gardener. His work is really important but he is more urban and food-focused. He does place-making - he is community building in specific spaces which require more investment and return. I work more with the saying *set it and forget it*, a more carefree technique. I plant with the seasons to create the highest eco impact with the least amount of effort. Many people talk to me about how I just sprinkle seeds and have so many positive results while they are constantly working hard in their gardens trying for similar results. I definitely have more fails than they do, but I also have more seeds.

**How have you seen your social media presence grow?**

We were exploding on TikTok in June. Previously we were posting on Instagram but were asking ourselves "why are we even posting here?" because we were not getting the engagement we were hoping for. The algorithm has switched around a few times so a lot of it depends on that. It's all an avenue to connect to more people. We can act locally but impact globally. Its cool to see our content reach many different regions and countries. It's kinda funny because I said "I can plant seeds" and the internet was like "what??"

Visit their website to grab some seeds of your own: [sfinbloom.art](https://sfinbloom.art)

**What new projects are on the horizon?**

We just launched the western bee lawn mix. Sustainable landscaping is becoming more appealing out of necessity. We are working on different seed mixes to solve people's challenges. Some are currently in development including some for lawn alternatives. We want to make new mixes to help people along their journey. We are looking to make some partnerships with non-profits to promote more conservation work. People have the inclination to throw seeds and watch them grow. People can do this in naive or harmful ways when not educated, or we can lead them to the trailhead of conservation.



Roadside flowers planted by Shalaco and Phoenix.

# How Can You Get Involved?

*Getting Involved can start big or small. It doesn't require you to dedicate all your time and money either. Small changes in your daily life can help impact the environment in big ways.*

## At Home

Getting involved can start easily in the comfort of your home. Participating in things such as no mow may helps European honeybees as well as native species. Also converting your typical grass lawn to a more native friendly lawn helps promote healthy living. The stopping of using pesticides is a huge improvement to both native species as well the humans round up and many other pesticides are found to be harmful to all living creatures.

## Volunteering

Volunteering can be a great way to get involved in the community either at garden centers or even other

ecofriendly groups that help improve the environment. If it's hard to find places to do such go out on your own! Picking up trash and cleaning up our cities can be done anytime, anywhere.

## Smart Practices

Incorporating small things into your routine can help reduce harm to our homes and cities. Making sure to Recycling products as well as composting are easy and smart practices we can use! Recycling doesn't have to be the traditional sense after using a product you can find ways to use it at home.

## Educating others

The biggest thing that helps us move forward is making sure everyone else is on board. Telling others how they can get involved or help promote healthy living in our cities!

# Environmental Justice Warriors

## Peyton Farley

Peyton Farley is a 21-year-old Milwaukee resident and local artist. She was studying at MIAD until she found her own path to take as she's involved in local artist guilds such as 414 Fleet where she found success in commission work. She also spent a year traveling the world where she was inspired by the places and people she met. She also works at a local garden and many more things. Her artist account on Instagram is "fartpalette" Besides her illustration skills she uses paper goods to create art pieces, often out of recycled goods, giving them another life.



## Questions/Answers

*What sustainable practices do you do?*

*"I try to in the city its hard, but I do compost bins for waste. Recycling water bottles into bricks to reduce waste. I try to not buy plastic stuff such as bottles or bags. I put waste into coffee cups or plastic bottles and pack it down until it's totally full to reduce the number of plastic bottles I throw out and trash."*

*What was it like when you were farming in Costa Rica?*

*"Well, I was working on a small farm in monte Verde. They used smaller*

*irrigation systems that were made from recycled goods. It was interesting to see how everything was recycled. Using compost was crucial. They didn't flush TP where I stayed as they would add it to the compost piles not used for food but other needs. They created poly tunnels out of recycled plastics to keep the plants and roots warm and help them grow."*

*What would you do to help if you could?*

*Starting small is the key. Our beaches are fucked up and that directly affects our water. Stopping people from littering and caring would be a start. Break the norms of what people have. I also think there's not enough solar/wind power being used. If that were to be manageable to do. While not destroying everything through production. I also would want to invite more greenhouse spaces into the city where we could grow food as well have a greener city the idea of escaping the so-called concrete jungle, we live in. It would also help small businesses.*



