

SLM Native Bloom Haven

A Community Agenda for Biodiversity Restoration in
Prince George's County and the City of Laurel



Our purpose is to restore native habitat, strengthen local ecosystems, and help communities build healthier, more resilient landscapes for people and wildlife.

Our Mission

SLM Native Bloom Haven is a nonprofit collective dedicated to restoring the diversity and abundance of native plants, pollinators, insects, and wildlife affected by habitat loss, urbanization, invasive species, intensive land use, and other human pressures.

We advance practical, community-centered solutions that improve biodiversity, water quality, soil health, and climate resilience while creating welcoming public spaces.

Our Priorities

Our work is organized around six connected priorities that restore habitat, improve ecosystem health, engage residents, and advance lasting local change.



Volunteers restore connected native habitat by planting diverse, locally appropriate species in shared public spaces.

1. Restore Native Habitats

- Replace low-diversity lawns and other monocultures with native forests, meadows, wetlands, and grasslands.
- Plant locally appropriate native trees, shrubs, grasses, and perennials that provide food, shelter, and breeding habitat.
- Create layered plant communities with canopy, understory, and groundcover vegetation.
- Protect and expand habitat along field edges, waterways, roads, schools, parks, and other public spaces.

2. Improve Water Quality and Ecosystem Health

- Support rain gardens, urban tree canopies, permeable surfaces, green roofs, cisterns, and other nature-based stormwater practices.
- Reduce runoff, erosion, and pollution while improving groundwater infiltration and stream health.
- Use native vegetation to strengthen water regulation, nutrient cycling, pollination, and soil formation.

3. Preserve Native Plant Diversity

- Prioritize true native species and regionally appropriate genetic sources.
- Propagate native plants from responsibly obtained seeds or root cuttings for future restoration projects.
- Reduce reliance on invasive species, cultivars, and hybrids where they may diminish ecological value.
- Develop a dependable inventory of native plants for community projects.

4. Reduce Harmful Land-Management Practices

- Limit pesticides, herbicides, and synthetic fertilizers that harm pollinators, beneficial insects, soil organisms, and waterways.
- Replace invasive and high-maintenance plants with ecologically valuable native alternatives.
- Promote land-care practices that build healthy soil, conserve water, and reduce long-term maintenance.

5. Engage and Educate the Community

- Help residents convert portions of yards and shared spaces into native habitat.
- Offer programs on native plants, bees, pollinators, and biodiversity for children, adults, educators, and community groups.
- Challenge misconceptions about native plants and insects through practical demonstrations and accessible information.
- Organize volunteer planting days, stewardship events, garden tours, and citizen-science projects.

6. Advocate for Biodiversity-Friendly Policy

- Participate in local public meetings and provide science-informed testimony.
- Support policies that advance native habitat restoration, sustainable agriculture, responsible chemical use, and green infrastructure.
- Encourage civic participation and communicate successful local restoration examples.
- Use public campaigns, local media, and community events to keep biodiversity visible.



Native flowers provide season-long food and shelter for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

Our Restoration and Partnership Model

Site-Based Restoration

- **Assess:** Evaluate sunlight, soil, moisture, drainage, existing vegetation, and community needs.
- **Design:** Match native plant communities and habitat features to site conditions.
- **Install:** Begin with manageable demonstration projects and expand as capacity grows.
- **Steward:** Establish clear maintenance plans, monitor outcomes, and adapt practices over time.

Partnerships and Collective Action



Volunteers, educators, and local partners work together to turn shared spaces into thriving native habitat.

We collaborate with residents, schools, local governments, scientists, civic associations, conservation groups, farms, faith communities, and responsible businesses. These partnerships expand expertise, strengthen public support, share maintenance responsibilities, and help successful projects scale.

Citizen Science and Accountability

We use observation, monitoring, and community-generated data to document plant survival, pollinator activity, habitat use, stormwater performance, volunteer participation, and other signs of ecological progress.

Near-Term Action Agenda: Our Next 12 Months



1. Identify priority restoration sites in Prince George's County and the City of Laurel.
2. Build a native plant inventory and responsible propagation program.
3. Launch a visible demonstration garden or stormwater habitat project.
4. Develop educational workshops and classroom-ready pollinator resources.
5. Recruit volunteers and establish stewardship teams.
6. Form partnerships with local institutions and conservation organizations.
7. Track measurable outcomes and share results with the community.

How We Will Measure Success

- More connected native habitat and greater plant diversity.
- Healthier pollinator and wildlife populations.
- Cleaner runoff, reduced erosion, and stronger stream corridors.
- Lower long-term landscape inputs and maintenance costs.
- More residents participating in restoration, education, and advocacy.
- Stronger local policies and partnerships supporting biodiversity.



Get Involved

Join the work. Volunteer at a planting or stewardship event, partner with us on a community site, bring an educational program to your group, donate to native-plant projects, host a restoration site, or advocate for biodiversity-friendly policy. Together, we can replace ecological loss with living landscapes that support people, native plants, and wildlife for generations to come.

