



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WARREN COUNTY, OHIO

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**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO**

MINUTES: Regular Session – June 11, 2024

This is a summary of actions and discussions of the meeting. You may view this meeting through our YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1ELh0jGpXd4VV2DTgsuqPA> or by contacting our office.

The Board met in regular session pursuant to adjournment of the June 4, 2024, Work Session meeting.

David G. Young – present

Shannon Jones – present

Tom Grossmann – present

Krystal Powell, Clerk – present

Minutes of the June 4, 2024 general session meeting and June 4, 2024 work session meeting were read and approved.

- 24-0733 A resolution was adopted approving permanent employment and a pay increase for Caitlyn Russell as Eligibility Referral Specialist II within Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Human Services Division.
Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0734 A resolution was adopted hiring JaNae Haroun as Eligibility Referral Specialist II, within the Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Human Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0735 A resolution was adopted accepting the resignation of Sierra Flippo, Protective Services Caseworker II, within the Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division, effective June 20, 2024. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0736 A resolution was adopted accepting the resignation of Tammy May, Business Manager, within Warren County Facilities Management effective June 6, 2024.
Vote: Unanimous

- 24-0737 A resolution was adopted accepting the resignation of Elizabeth Loesch, Eligibility Referral Specialist II, within Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Human Services Division, effective June 4, 2024.
Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0738 A resolution was adopted authorizing the posting of a “Case Aide” position, within the Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division, in accordance with the Warren County Personnel Policy Manual, Section 2.02(A).
Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0739 A resolution was adopted authorizing the President of the Board to sign Risk Sharing Authority Application for Surety Bond for Financial Responsibility for Underground Storage Tanks. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0740 A resolution was adopted cancelling the regularly scheduled Commissioners’ Meeting of Thursday, June 13, 2024. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0741 A resolution was adopted setting the public hearing for rezoning application of Lauri Moore and Eddie Reynolds (Case #2024-02) to rezone approximately 9.1 acres from Light Industrial Manufacturing Zone “I1” to Rural Residential (5- acre density) “RU” in Franklin Township. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0742 A resolution was adopted entering into contract negotiations with Bill Strange & Sons for the FY21 Village of Morrow – Train Depot Renovations Community Development Block Grant Project for Mechanical / HVAC Services.
Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0743 A resolution was adopted advertising for bids for purchase of two (2) handicap upfit 2024 Chrysler Voyager LX vans and two (2) standard 2024 Chrysler Voyager LX vans for the Warren County Veteran Services Office.
Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0744 A resolution was adopted authorizing President of the Board to sign a 90 day F-12 Beer and Wine Permit Application from the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control by the Warren County Agricultural Society for the Warren County Fair and fundraising events at the Warren County Fairgrounds.
Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0745 A resolution was adopted authorizing the Board to sign a proposal from RJE Business Interiors on behalf of Warren County Department of Emergency Services / Communications. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0746 A resolution was adopted authorizing the Board to sign a proposal from RJE Business Interiors on behalf of Warren County Department of Emergency Services / Emergency Management Agency (EMA). Vote: Unanimous

- 24-0747 A resolution was adopted entering into Classroom Training Agreements on behalf of OhioMeansJobs Warren County. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0748 A resolution was adopted authorizing acceptance of quote #002039 from Secure Cyber Defense, LLC for Managed Services Renewal of Endpoint Detection and Response Services on behalf of Warren County Telecommunications. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0749 A resolution was adopted authorizing acceptance of a quote from CDW for renewal of Blade Infrastructure Support on behalf of Warren County Telecommunications. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0750 A resolution was adopted approving Change Order No. 1 to the contract with Moody's of Dayton, Inc. for the construction of the 2024 Well Redevelopment Project, Purchase Order No. 24001513. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0751 A resolution was adopted acknowledging receipt of May 2024 financial statement. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0752 A resolution was adopted acknowledging payment of bills. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0753 A resolution was adopted approving a supplemental appropriation into Health Insurance Fund #6632. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0754 A resolution was adopted approving an appropriation adjustment within General Fund Court of Common Pleas #11011220. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0755 A resolution was adopted approving an appropriation adjustment within General Fund Court of Common Pleas #11011223. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0756 A resolution was adopted approving an appropriation adjustment within County Court Fund #2283. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0757 A resolution was adopted approving an appropriation adjustment within Health Insurance Fund #6632. Vote: Unanimous
- 24-0758 A resolution was adopted approving requisitions and authorizing County Administrator to sign documents relative thereto. Vote: Unanimous

DISCUSSIONS

On motion, upon unanimous call of the roll, the Board accepted and approved the consent agenda.

Molly Conley, Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District Executive Director, was present to invite the Board to the Float the River Event which includes a Little Miami River paddle tour and leadership luncheon.


Mrs. Conley explained that the event is intended to connect local decision makers to the valuable natural resources in their jurisdictions with the focus on the Little Miami River. She stated that the event is for local elected officials and local leadership and is being held on July 12, 2024.

Mrs. Conley introduced Ray Otto, Member of the Waynesville Garden Club, to discuss details relative to the creation of a Warren County Pollinator Pathway.

Mr. Otto presented the attached PowerPoint presentation outlining the definition a pollinator pathway, the improvement of surrounding wildlife, and the project goals of Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District.

There was further discussion relative to actions residents can take to contribute to the success of the Pollinator Pathway.

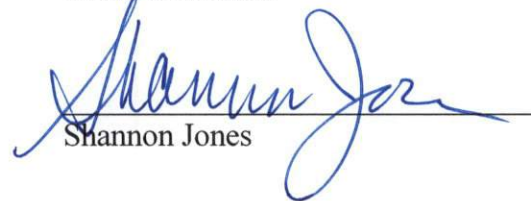
Upon motion the meeting was adjourned.



David G. Young, President




Tom Grossmann



Shannon Jones

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held on June 11, 2024, in compliance with Section 121.22 O.R.C.



Krystal Powell, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Warren County, Ohio



Warren County Leadership Float

Canoe/kayak the Little Miami River through beautiful Warren County and learn about the river along the way! After the float, join us for informational presentations and conversation along with lunch kindly provided by Warren Co Soil and Water Conservation District.

FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2024

8:30 AM - 1:30PM

Float from Clint Fultz Park to Caesar Creek Access

Luncheon at Clint Fultz Park

Transportation, kayak, PFD kindly provided by Rivers Edge Outfitters.

Visit www.warrenswcd.com/Warren-Co-Float.html
for RSVP and more information!

Creating a Warren County Pollinator Pathway

Planting for Pollinators and Native Insects

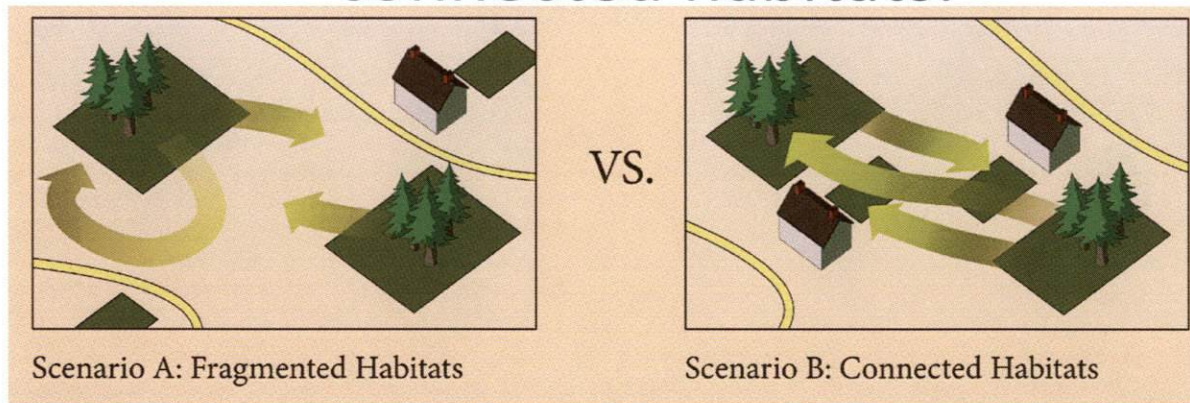
Presented by Ray Otto
Waynesville Garden Club



What is a Pollinator Pathway?



Establishing a pollinator pathway creates a pollinator-friendly place for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinating insects and wildlife to find **shelter, food** sources and a place to find **a mate** in a series of continuous connected habitats.

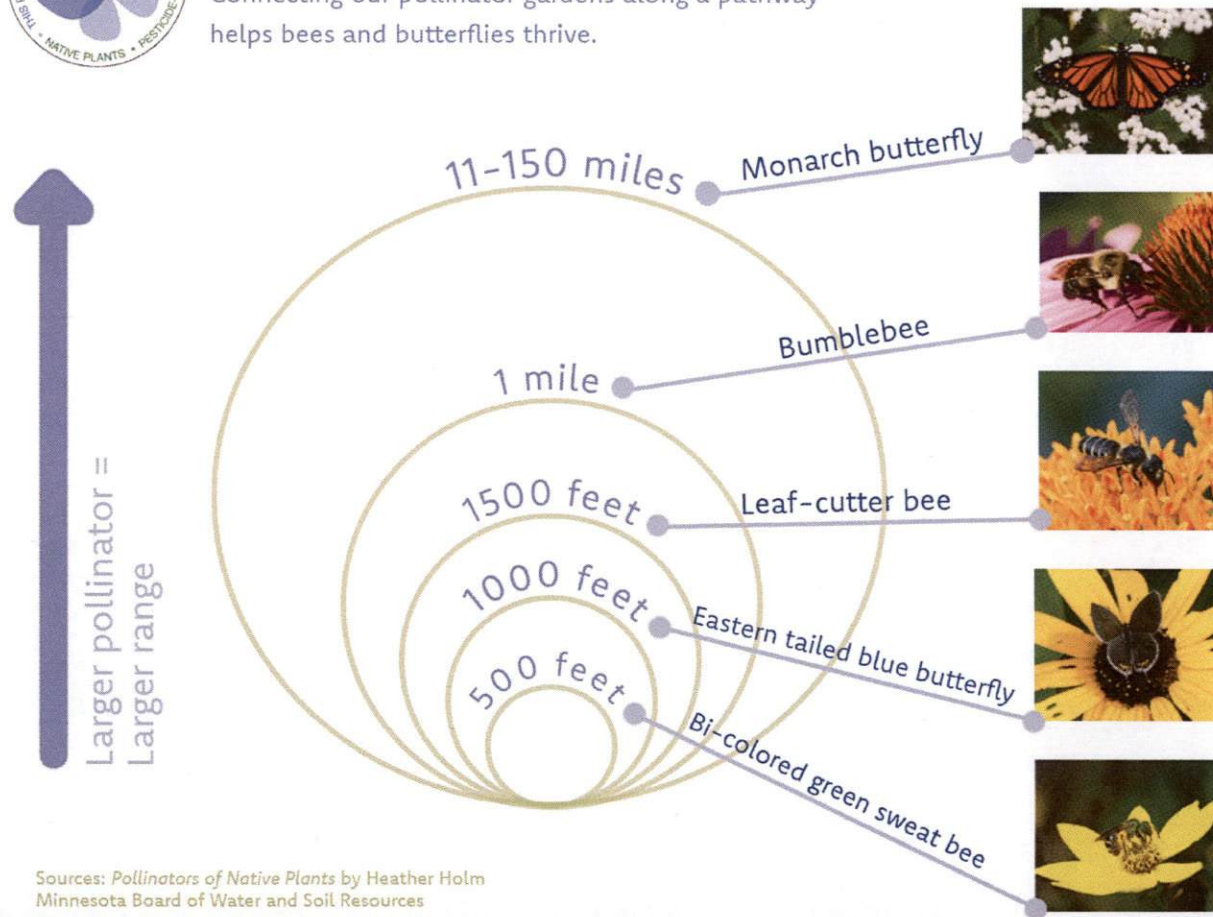


Source: Pollinator Pathway Northeast



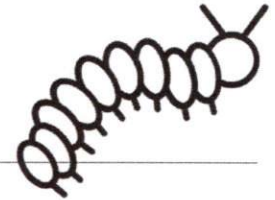
How Far Can A Pollinator Fly to Find Food?

Connecting our pollinator gardens along a pathway helps bees and butterflies thrive.




Sources: *Pollinators of Native Plants* by Heather Holm
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Surrounding wildlife also improves!



- More pollinators means more birds since 96% of all songbirds rely on soft, high-protein caterpillars to feed their young.
- More flowering plants mean more seeds for birds and other wildlife.
- A balance including more birds and other wildlife, like opossums and bats, means fewer pests such as ticks and mosquitos.

WCSWCD's Goals

- Create a pollinator corridor of contiguous properties including open spaces and adjacent private properties throughout Warren County.
 - **Goal One:** Caesar Creek State Park to Waynesville to City of Lebanon.
 - To support habitat for pollinators with positive spillover effects for the entire food chain and our watershed.
 - Each year highlight an insect/pollinator and provide education surrounding this species.
- 

2024 Species – Blazing Star Moth & Plant




Image: American Meadows website


- Only 100 populations still in existence!
- Relies on Blazing Star Plant (*Liatris spp.*) to complete their life cycle.



2024 Species Highlight – Blazing Star Borer Moth

- The adults emerge from late August to October.
 - The female moth lays eggs in the fall in the soil near the Liatris plants. The larvae hatch in spring, make their way to the stem base of the Liatris, and bore into it to feed. In late summer, the larvae burrow into the soil to pupate (undergo metamorphosis to the pupal stage). They remain there for about a month.
 - These moths are active in the late evenings.
- 

2024 Blazing Star Moth Plants

- Blazing Star or gayfeather (*Liatris Spicata*) [Larval host plant]
 - Big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*)
 - Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*)
 - Common mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum virginianum*)
 - Tall coreopsis (*Coreopsis tripteris*)
 - Ohio goldenrod (*Solidago ohioensis*)
 - Culver's root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*)
 - Switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*)
- 

2024 Species Highlight – Monarch Butterfly



Images: Peter Wirtz, Bugwood.org

Image: Wild Ones Western Pennsylvania Area

- Relies on Milkweed (*Asclepias spp.*) plants to complete their life cycle.
- Monarchs produce 2 generations each year with each living only a few weeks except for the super generation produced in late summer or early fall.
- The super generation migrates to Mexico & lives for about 6 months.

Actions YOU can take!

1. PLANT a Blazing Star plant, a milkweed or other monarch supporting native plant and manage invasive species.
2. Provide winter habitat
 - Leave the autumn leaves & stems in place or in pile some where in yard for overwintering eggs and pupae of pollinating insects – wait to cleanup until temperatures will not fall below 50 degrees, Mothers Day usually. Better yet, leave stems as mulch under plants, in case larvae are nesting in stems during Spring into Summer.
3. Do not use pesticides near these plants
4. Do not use weed fabric as it blocks pollinators from emerging from their in-ground burrows
5. Get soil tested to see if it needs any thing!
6. For spaces with lawn:
 - Mow higher and less often.
 - Consider reducing lawn size by adding shrubs, trees, or a mini meadow.
 - Leave some bare ground and dead wood for nesting native bees.

Briefed and Supportive as of 16 May:

- Caesar Creek State Park
- Massie, Turtlecreek & Wayne Township Councils
- Harveysberg & Waynesville Village Council
- Bellbrook Garden Club
- Lebanon Garden Club
- Town and Country Garden Club
- Marianist Environmental Education Center
- Cincinnati Zoo - Bowyer Farm
- Grandma's Gardens
- Berns Garden Center
- Swartz Mulch



Grandma's
GARDENS



Resources To Check Out!

- Pollinator Pathway - [Pollinator-pathway.org](https://pollinator-pathway.org)
- Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District - warrenswcd.com
- Ohio Native Plant Month - <https://www.ohionativeplantmonth.org/>
- The Nature Conservancy - https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/oh_newsletter_spring-summer_2021_FINAL.pdf
- Xerces Society - <https://www.xerces.org/>
- Plant for Pollinators Challenge by Cincinnati Zoo - <https://cincinnati.zoo.org/gardens/plant-for-pollinators/>
- Gardenia Creating Gardens (Quick resource to find Nectar plants for Ohio) - <https://www.gardenia.net/guide/monarch-nectar-plants-for-ohio>
- Ohio Invasive Plant list - [ohiodnr.gov invasive-plants](https://ohiodnr.gov/invasive-plants)

BLAZING STAR

Liatris spp.

DO YOUR PART - PLANT MORE BLAZING STAR!



Part of the Asteraceae family, the blazing star genus includes 32 species that occur throughout North America from southern Canada to northern Mexico. Commonly called blazing star or gayfeather, this perennial produces tall spikes of bright purple flowers that resemble bottlebrushes above the green strap-like foliage. Flower spikes bloom from the top down. Plants reach height of 2-6ft.

Flowers of blazing star attract both bees and butterflies but is a critical plant for the survival of the blazing star borer moth.



Liatris spp. is a great addition to the perennial garden, the flower spikes can also be enjoyed as a cut flower, or harvested and dried.

Images Courtesy of :
Front Photos

Blazing Star - USDA Forest Service - Southern Research Station, USDA Forest Service, SRS, Bugwood.org

Blazing Star Moth - David Cuthrell, Michigan State University

Back photos

Blazing Star - John D. Byrd, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org

Blazing Star Moth - David Cuthrell, Michigan State University

To promote the wise stewardship of our natural resources through cooperative partnerships, educational programs, and technical assistance in land and water management.





BLAZING STAR BORER MOTH

ABOUT

Blazing star borer moth is a moth that depends on the blazing star plant (*Liatris* spp.) In Ohio, it is listed as endangered and is ranked globally vulnerable. The blazing star moth is struggling because there are no longer massive Midwestern prairies filled with the blazing star plant.

The moth gets its name from the way it feeds. It bores into the plant stems and feeds on the inside of the plant. It is believed that there are a little more than 100 populations still in existence.



HELP PROMOTE HABITAT

Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District wants to promote habitat for the Blazing Star Moth. Help by planting Blazing Star (*Liatris* spp.) in local landscapes.