

## **AQUEDUCT POLLINATOR GARDENS**

Old Croton Aqueduct / Rivertowns Pollinator Project



# This document describes the guidelines and protocols that govern the creation of Pollinator Gardens along Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park (OCA).

Pollinators native to New York State range from bees to butterflies to hummingbirds, and almost all travel relatively short distances to forage, with few ranging more than a mile. Stands of pollinating plants throughout the length of the OCA will not only provide for new and diverse sources of pollen and nectar, but also reinforce among park visitors and neighbors the importance of providing for reliable habitat and sources of the proteins that insects and birds require during their active periods to carry adults and offspring through to the next spring.

To encourage the creation and maintenance of pollinator gardens along the OCA corridor, the Rivertowns Pollinator Project and Old Croton Aqueduct staff are encouraging the creation of pollinator gardens along the 26-miles of the Park. Property owners whose land abuts that of the Aqueduct are encouraged to develop appropriate gardens of native pollinating plants both on their land and on that of the state park.

A landowner whose property is adjacent to the Old Croton Aqueduct may create and maintain an Aqueduct Pollinator Garden that abuts the Landowner's property under the terms of this Guidance Document. The Landowner may create the Aqueduct Pollinator Garden as an extension of a new or existing garden on the Landowner's property that is contiguous with the Old Croton Aqueduct. Any such Aqueduct Pollinator Garden may not extend more than five feet from the landowners' property line into Park land and may not cover an area of ground within the Park that is greater than 50 sq. ft.

All Aqueduct Pollinator Gardens are subject to and must conform with New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Policy Directive: NR-POL-013 "Native Plants in State Parks and Historic Sites" (Eff. 06/01/2017). A copy of this Policy Directive is attached hereto as Exhibit B and can be found at <a href="https://www.parks.ny.gov/documents/inside-our-agency/PolicyOnNativePlantPolicy.pdf">https://www.parks.ny.gov/documents/inside-our-agency/PolicyOnNativePlantPolicy.pdf</a>. A Landowner may remove from the Aqueduct Pollinator Garden any invasive species of plant as defined in Policy Directive NR-POL-013, although trees with a diameter of more than four inches, even if invasive, may not be removed. A list of approved native plants and shrubs that can be planted in an Aqueduct Pollinator Garden can be found at <a href="http://www.newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu/Results.aspx">http://www.newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu/Results.aspx</a> using search criteria found below. The planting of trees is not permitted in an Aqueduct Pollinator Garden and collecting native plants from the wild is likewise not permitted.

Search the online New York Plant Atlas using the following search criteria:

- Nativity = Native
- State Listed Status = Not Listed
- US Listed Status = Not Listed
- Counties to Include = Westchester

The Landowner creating the Aqueduct Pollinator Garden is responsible for planting, watering and maintaining the Aqueduct Pollinator Garden and any plants and shrubs within it. The Landowner may use pesticide-free



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fertilizer and compost in the Aqueduct Pollinator Garden. The Landowner may not store any tools or equipment on Park property and must store and maintain any such tools and equipment on the Landowner's own property. Aqueduct park management reserves the right to withdraw its approval for an Aqueduct Pollinator Garden that fails to comply with this Guidance Document.

A Landowner may not enclose the Aqueduct Pollinator Garden with fencing but may place stakes at the corners of the Aqueduct Pollinator Garden demarcating its boundaries. A sign denoting the garden as part of the Pollinator Pathway may be placed in the garden.

Before a Landowner may create an Aqueduct Pollinator Garden, the Landowner must complete and submit a permit form (attached) and receive approval for such a garden from State Parks.



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### **AQUEDUCT POLLINATOR GARDEN PERMIT**

#### Subject to an annual review and permit renewal

This Permit allows for the creation of an Aqueduct Pollinator Garden contiguous to a similar garden on an adjacent landowner's property. I have read the Guidelines for creating such a garden and wish to create such a garden.

An Aqueduct Pollinator Garden is:

- No more than 50 square feet, extending into Aqueduct land no more than five feet
- Contiguous to a pollinator garden located on the Landowner's property
- Comprised of native pollen or nectar-producing plants as defined by the New York Flora Atlas.

Name	Email
Address	Phone / Cell
City	State Zip

#### Location of garden if different from above

Address	Phone / Cell	
City	State	Zip

I have read and understand the Aqueduct Pollinator Garden protocol and desire to create on both my property and Aqueduct property a pollinator garden as defined in it.

Signature

Date

Please mail the signed and dated form to:

Pollinator Gardens Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park 15 Walnut street Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522

You will be notified by email when your application is approved.