

# CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

In partnership with the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), the Champaign County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) is celebrating this 65th year of Stewardship Week April 26 – May 3, 2020, focusing on the theme “Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators?”



We hope you enjoyed the activities, materials and videos. Learning never stops and I must admit, I learned more about pollinators this week too.

[NAPPC Bee and Butterfly Fact Sheets](#)

[Who Am I Game with Pollinators](#)

[Ag in the Classroom Ag Magazine - Pollinator](#)

[Ag in the Class - Terra Nova Publication](#)


[Ag in the Classroom Quizizz on Bees](#)

[Test your bee and pollinator knowledge from USGS](#)

[PBS Interactive Pollinator Game](#)

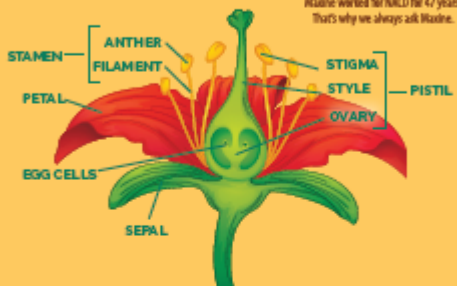
With the U of I Pollinarium, Pumpkin Patches, Forest Preserve and Parks, Winery, Orchards and so much more, we are fortunate to have an abundance of good resources in our backyards that utilize and can teach us about pollinators.

**Ask MAXINE!**



**Question:** Since flowers have male and female parts, does that mean that some flowers are male and some flowers are female?

Maxine worked for NACD for 47 years. That's why we always ask Maxine.



**MALE PARTS (STAMEN)**  
-anther (makes pollen)  
-filament

**FEMALE PARTS (PISTIL)**  
-stigma  
-style  
-ovary (eggs inside)

**Answer:** Some flowering plants are male, some are female, and some are both. They all have one thing in common - they have to be pollinated to reproduce. Why is this important to us? We have to have plants to breathe; we have to have plants to eat; we have to have plants to build homes, etc.

For pollination to happen, pollen has to make it from the anther (the male part which produces the pollen) to the stigma (the female part which leads to the ovary).

This leads us to why pollinators are so important to us. Most plants can't move on their own, so over 70 percent of all flowering plants, including crops, rely on animal pollination. Other methods of pollination include wind and hand pollination.

**Remember - we have to have plants so we HAVE to have pollinators!**



We close our week with a very special interview with Rachel Coventry from Curtis Orchard. Her knowledge and interest in bees runs deep as she is the third generation on the orchard. Her bee keeping enthusiasm follows in her grandfather's footsteps. Did you know that during their normal operating season they give tours and you get a chance to learn about bees, pollination and honey? Please watch our video for a sneak peak into the life of a bee.

The 2020 Stewardship and Education materials used this week and the new NACD Pollinator Field Guide Curriculum Guide can be downloaded for free on NACD's Conservation Education Hub.

For More Information: [www.ccsxcd.com](http://www.ccsxcd.com) and [www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org)

## Vocabulary Words

**Anther** - a male flower part forming the top part of a stamen and bearing the pollen in sacks.

**Avian** - relating to, belonging to, or characteristic of birds.

**Biodiversity** - the existence of a wide variety of plant and animal species in their natural environments.

**Crosspollination** - pollen is moved from plant to plant rather than on the same plant.

**Ovary** - the lower part of a pistil that bears ovules and ripens into a fruit.

**Pollination** - to transfer pollen grains from the male structure of a plant anther to the female structure of a plant stigma and fertilize it.

[Click Here for the Complete Level 4 Booklet](#)