

# What can you do to help?



*Mertensia virginica*  
Virginia Bluebells



*Asclepias tuberosa*  
Butterfly Weed



*Ratibida pinnata*  
Gray-Headed Coneflower

There are LOTS of things each of us can do to make a difference, including:

## in your yard

- Plant many more native plants in your yard to feed wildlife
- Add native plants to your ornamental gardens
- Plant large native trees to expand the national tree canopy
- Plant trees and shrubs that produce seeds and berries for birds
- Use native plants with deep roots to reduce soil erosion
- Plant drought tolerant native plants that use less water
- Eliminate the use of pesticides in your yard
- Replace food-free, sterile lawn areas with native plant habitats
- Add a source of water in your yard for wildlife

## in your community

- Plan or participate in native plant events in your community
- Help install pollinator gardens at schools and in public areas
- Teach children about why native plants are so important
- Design, plant, and observe a pollinator garden with a child
- Buy native plants from local growers
- Collect and grow native plants from seed collected nearby

## at home

- Plant a pollinator garden in your yard to expand pollinator pathways
- Keep yard waste on-site by composting
- Use compost to amend soil and save valuable peat bogs
- Turn off outdoor lights at night to help migrating birds
- Use lids over outdoor lights so they don't shine upward
- If outdoor lights are needed, use motion detectors