

For Immediate Release

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## City installs new pollinator habitats

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The City of Harrisonburg has recently become more pollinator friendly with the installation of two pollinator habitats along Noll Drive and North Liberty Street.

Both locations were planted with a pollinator-friendly mix of seeds, which includes native grasses, native wildflowers, and legume species.

“Some of the wildflowers have already appeared,” Wes Runion, environmental specialist for the Public Works Department, said. “Next year these locations will really start to look amazing, when most perennial wildflowers are established.”

You can visit the habitat along Noll Drive and relax on a bench that was repurposed from a local urban ash tree that had to be cut down due to damage from the emerald ash borer. Educational signage at both sites explains the importance of pollinators.

These projects were funded by Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance’s Destination Downtown Grant and installed with assistance from the Headwaters Master Naturalists.



*(Left) A native bee visits a Indian Blanket flower planted in the pollinator project area. (Right) Brad Wroblewski, of Rocktown Urban Wood, and Wes Runion stand by the new bench.*



**The City of Harrisonburg** is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to almost 55,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov).