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**Atlantic is implementing a pollinator initiative to restore portions of the ACP right-of-way with a variety of plants that attract pollinator species.**

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**Pollinators are essential for the production of many of the fruits and vegetables that we eat daily. Insects that pollinate, primarily bees and butterflies, have been in decline in large part due to loss of habitat.**

**Pipeline right-of-way corridors create an opportunity to re-establish pollinator habitat consisting of native grasses and flowers.**

**In addition, pollinator habitat is beneficial for other wildlife like quail, turkey and songbirds.**

**The Xerces Society is a great source of additional information. Their web address is: [www.xerces.org](http://www.xerces.org)**

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**Consultations:** Atlantic has consulted with experts from state and federal resource agencies and conservation organizations, including the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, who support the development of pollinator habitat.

**Suitable Locations:** Regional native seed experts have advised Atlantic that the best locations for establishing pollinator habitat along the ACP right-of-way corridor are in areas with gradual or low gradient slopes. These low gradient areas are found along the corridor in southern Virginia and in North Carolina.

Rights-of-way within existing forestlands are preferable for the introduction of pollinator seed mixes. Agricultural areas, including cropland and pastures, are generally replanted with crops or a pasture seed mix to match the existing pasture plantings.

**Seed Mixes:** Atlantic has developed regionally-specific seed mixes in consultation with various local offices of the Natural Resource Conservation Service, state resource agencies, soil and water conservation districts, and organizations that have specific knowledge of both perennial cover grasses as well as native flower seed mixes.

**Planting:** Planting native grasses and flowers takes additional care to ensure success of the plantings. The soil surface must be smooth and compact to allow shallow seeding. Typically, planting will include the use of annual nurse/cover crops to ensure proper soil erosion control and the survival of the pollinator plant species.

As with all right-of-way restoration, erosion control is a priority.

Prior to planting, Atlantic will need to use herbicides such as Round-Up®, as is done with no-till farming to control weeds.

**Maintenance:** Atlantic will perform additional mowing in these areas in the first two years to reduce weed competition with the young pollinator seedlings. Spot use of herbicides will also be needed occasionally to control woody and invasive plants.

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**What do I need to do to participate?**

Work with your Atlantic land agent to sign a short and simple addendum to your easement agreement. Landowner participation is voluntary. Atlantic will try to accommodate landowners interested in supporting pollinator habitat depending on the suitability of the location.



To learn more about the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, please visit:  
[atlanticcoastpipeline.com](http://atlanticcoastpipeline.com)