



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, pollinator species such as birds and insects are essential partners of farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply; and

**WHEREAS**, pollination plays a vital role in the health of our national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities; and

**WHEREAS**, pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy, bio-diverse ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee has managed wildlife habitats and public lands such as Tennessee forests and grasslands for decades; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee provides producers with conservation assistance to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on working lands and wildlands;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of June 17-23, 2013 as

*Pollinator Week*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this eighth day of February, 2013.



*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Lee Vargitt*

Secretary of State