Key Messages: 4-H Pollinator Habitat Program

About the 4-H Pollinator Habitat Program

- The *4-H Pollinator Habitat Program* (4-H PH) was developed by National 4-H Council and Corteva Agriscience™, Agriculture Division of DowDuPont to educate youth nationwide about the importance of pollinators and pollinator habitat and to encourage the establishment of quality pollinator habitats.

- The program aims to connect youth with community organizations to learn how to plan, create and sustain pollinator habitats, while sharing their experiences and educating other youth on the importance of pollinators.

- Cultivating future leaders is a core component of the 4-H experience. In partnership with community partners, teen leaders will learn how to plan, install, and work together to sustain thriving pollinator habitats. As a result, they will learn more about their community and the resources it takes to plan and launch a sustainability project.

- Youth participants will be provided with a take home toolkit that includes a trowel and planting stake so they can plant their own pollinator gardens at home and in their community to increase biodiversity.

Why This Matters

- **Pollinators are key to our food supply, and as supply must increase to meet demand, so must our dedication to ensuring pollinators and their habitat thrives.**

- **Pollinating insects are an essential component in global food production.**
  About one in every three bites we eat is the result of pollinators. Apples, pumpkins, alfalfa, sunflowers, buckwheat and almonds are just some of the crops that rely on pollinators.

- **There are many challenges that impact pollinator population.**
  Many factors, including habitat loss and pesticide exposure, affect pollinator health and can lead to losses and reduced population.

- **Pollinators are economically significant for agriculture.**
  Approximately one-third of all food and beverages are dependent on the activity of pollinators and many species of native pollinators and domesticated honeybees are in decline.

- **Youth can positively impact the future population of pollinators.**
  By understanding ways to increase biodiversity and establish their own pollinator gardens, youth can ensure pollinators have access to food and nesting sites while creating habitat for other animals.