

- Committee(s): Alton Village Square
- Community Gardens
 - Butterflyway

Alton Village Butterflyway

Who are we?

The Alton Village Butterflyway is an initiative of the Alton Village Association. We are a group of keen volunteers, residents and businesses, creating native habitat, "one fun butterfly-friendly" planting at a time. We do what we can to help the environment, create beautiful spaces, and promote community well-being with the wonderful gardens that we plant. We work with the Town of Caledon and our conservation partners to help our community become more resilient to meet the environmental, economic and social challenges of climate change.

Mission Statement:

To promote and plant a network of diverse and sustainable native plant gardens in our community, starting with the Alton Village Square, that will meet the objectives of the David Suzuki Butterflyway, add colourful character to our neighbourhood and foster a spirit of community pride now and for future generations.

Goals and Objectives:

Year 1

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1. Initiate plantings on the Alton Village Square: Create an inviting and creative landscape of pollinator garden patches for residents and visitors to enjoy and learn from
 2. Promote and support the establishment of pollinator-friendly gardens in residential yards through sharing information through the Alton Village Butterflyway facebook page, emails to interested residents, and communicating with visitors to the garden. Encourage businesses and institutions to add native plants to their properties through similar channels and direct outreach to businesses.
 3. Connect with other communities for support and knowledge sharing.

Year 2

1. Identify and map at least 12 pollinator patches in 2022 to achieve designation as a Butterflyway
2. Maintain native plantings in the Alton Village Square and continue with efforts to educate and support residents who wish to include native plants in their landscape planning.
3. Continue to build connections to other community groups with aligned interests
4. Explore the expansion of additional native plantings through discussions with appropriate municipal and private partners including the potential for planting native species in parks, boulevards, laneways and schoolyards.

Future and on-going plans

1. Continue to maintain pollinator gardens in the Alton Village Square
2. Continue outreach and advocacy efforts to support local residents and businesses that wish to include native plantings in their landscapes and provide a hub for information sharing among individuals and businesses planting native species
3. Advocate for pollinator friendly practices at local and regional levels

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4. Host educational events, plant and seed giveaways and sales to support efforts to increase the number of native plant patches in Alton. Example: CVC Webinar for AVA and Butterflyway participants

