



No Mow 'til Mother's Day

Frequently Asked Questions

Overview

What is the "No Mow 'til Mother's Day" campaign and why is Lombard supporting the effort?

The Village and the Public Works and Environmental Concerns Committee want to raise awareness throughout the community of opportunities to support our environment and local habitats for wildlife. No Mow 'til Mother's Day invites residents to avoid mowing their lawn, or a portion of their lawn, through Mother's Day on May 14, 2023 to help support the local ecology, the habitats of pollinators and other wildlife.

How the Program Works

How do residents get involved?

Lombard residents in single family homes who wish to participate in the program can sign up via this [online form](#) until April 1, 2023. Once registered, residents will receive a lawn sign and be exempt from lawn mowing code enforcement through Mother's Day on Sunday, May 14, 2023.

Where do I get my sign?

Once a resident's participation in the program is approved by the Village, the Public Works Department will deliver and install the yard sign. The sign will be placed on private property and oriented towards the roadway. Residents must maintain and display the sign for the duration of the program.

What should I do with my sign when the program ends?

The Village will collect the yard signs the week following Mother's Day.

Lawn Maintenance

Do I have to let my entire lawn grow?

No. You can choose to let the grass grow on your entire lawn, including the parkway, or just a small section of it. If you feel your lawn is too long, you may cut it at any time. This initiative is about supporting habitats for pollinators, but also about raising awareness of the small things we can do as a community to create a better environment for pollinators.

What can I do if dandelions go to seed in my yard?

If a yellow dandelion goes from a flower to a seed, it is no longer a benefit to pollinators, so please feel free to cut off the seed head so the seeds don't have a chance to spread. There are usually younger dandelions beginning to flower below the seeding plants, so try to cut the seeding dandelions individually or set your mower deck on a higher level to avoid cutting the new yellow dandelion flowers.

Code Enforcement

What if a neighbor complains about my grass getting too long?

Those who are registered for the program and have a "No Mow 'til Mother's Day" lawn sign visible will not be subject to lawn mowing code enforcement. We understand that not everyone may be in favor of this initiative, but the program is temporary and will end on May 14, 2023. We ask for your patience during this program as it aims to benefit our local ecology. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact the Village at (630) 620-5740.

Do I have to cut my grass on Mother's Day?

Participating properties are expected to be mowed no later than Saturday, May 20, 2023.

More information

What else can I do to help pollinators?

Want a more sustainable solution to No Mow May? How about planting native gardens as a lawn alternative? It's a great long-term solution to enhancing our bee population, as well as other beloved pollinators. Maybe you can reduce the size of your lawn to accommodate a small native garden, filled with easy to maintain perennials that will thrive in our area and help our pollinators populate.

Here are some other helpful tips:

- Avoid using pesticides
- Plant colorful native wildflowers
- Grow flowers in clusters
- Plant a wide variety of flowering plants that bloom during different times throughout the year
- Plant trees, herbs, flowering fruits, and vegetables
- Leave some areas, even small areas, undisturbed
- Create a nesting shelter

Additional resources on pollinators and conservation efforts may be found at:

- Lombard Garden Club – <http://lombardgardenclub.org/>
- The Morton Arboretum - <https://mortonarb.org/plant-and-protect/>
- University of Illinois Extension - <https://extension.illinois.edu/mg>
- The Conservation Foundation Conservation @Home Program - <https://www.theconservationfoundation.org/conservation-home/>
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/plantsanimals/pollinate/gardeners/>

For more information about this program, contact the Public Works Department at publicworks@villageoflombard.org