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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BOROUGH OF MADISON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
OFFERS CURBSIDE DELIVERY OF POLLINATOR PLANTS**

Madison, NJ – April 16, 2020 - Since 2018, Joan Maccari of the Madison Environmental Commission has grown 100 pollinator plants, including milkweed and lobelia, to give away at events throughout April and May. This year, the MEC is offering a new twist: Free Curbside Delivery on Select Dates.

Curbside delivery can be arranged by filling out an online order form at <https://tinyurl.com/pollinatororders>. Because of the added service, the MEC is hoping that residents will be inspired to give back to the town and make a voluntary donation to the Madison Small Business Recovery Grant Program, <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/help-the-madison-nj-small-business-community-recover>. “We believe that environmental vitality and economic vitality are what make Madison such a special place to live,” says Claire Whitcomb, MEC Chair.

Plants will be delivered throughout April and May as the seedlings mature. Quantities are limited and residents may only order one (1) plant per household.

The delivery schedule is as follows:

- April 22 for Wild Bergamot and Purple Giant Hyssop;
- May 2 for Great Blue Lobelia, Cardinal Flower and River Oats;
- May 28 for Tall/Poke Milkweed, Swamp/Pink Milkweed, Common Milkweed and Butterfly Milkweed.

Photos of all species are available on the online order form. Only one (1) species may be ordered. Because of the limited quantities, a similar plant may need to be substituted.

“The MEC’s curbside delivery program will brighten our lives and our yards in a time of crisis,” says Maureen Byrne, Borough Council liaison to the MEC. “I personally grow milkweed because I know it’s the only plant that monarchs will lay their eggs on. Other butterflies also depend on specific host plants for their eggs and caterpillars. My hat’s off to Joan Maccari for her dedication to growing pollinator plants for our community—for three straight years.”

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