

# RIPICN Membership Principles

“A healthy network of plants and insects is the foundation of a healthy environment for all life on Earth, including people.”



[The Rhode Island Plant Insect Community Network](#) (RIPICN; “the Network”) is made up of organizations, programs, and projects (the Members) that work on pollinators or “pollinator adjacent” topics in Rhode Island. The Network is a program that connects these research and outreach efforts to leverage Member strengths, identify knowledge gaps, and raise the profile of this community. The Network is funded through a generous grant from the [One Hive Foundation](#).

## EXPECTATIONS OF THE NETWORK

The Network is **not** an advocacy program; however, the Network encourages the public to learn about and/or connect with Network Members whose interests, which may include advocacy, are aligned with their own. The Network will:

- Communicate with Members on a biweekly basis through newsletters and/or emails with announcements, updates, interesting findings, and research/work highlights from Members.
- Avoid competing with Members for financial or other resources.
- Provide financial support to Members only in support of Network administration, not for individual Member projects.

## EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS

Network Membership is intended for organizations, programs, university/college labs, and other projects involved in research, outreach, or other work focused on native plants, insects, and/or plant-insect interactions. At this time, individual members of the public are not able to become Members. Members are expected to:

- Designate **at least** one Member point person for the Network and other Network Members to contact. The Network requires, at minimum, the full name and email address of each Member’s point person(s).
- Allow the Network and Members of the Network to use the Member’s name and logo when referring to the Network or presenting information on behalf of the Network.
- If applicable, share Member social media handles with the Network and allow the Network to repost relevant content (with credit) and tag them in social media posts involving or including the Member or their work.
- The Network’s membership is public knowledge and Members will be listed on the Network’s website.

## ENCOURAGED OF MEMBERS

Members are not required to do more than is listed above. Nonetheless, the Network’s goals are advanced when Members:

- Attend the Network’s annual meetings. The aim of these annual gatherings is to provide an occasion for presenter(s) from each Member to highlight the previous years’ research, outreach efforts, and/or other work, as well as update other Members about upcoming research plans.
- Send announcements related to the Network’s interests (e.g., new projects, interesting findings, and upcoming events) to the RIPICN Program Coordinator for dissemination to other Network Members. The Network will strive to then spread the word through the biweekly updates.
- Share the Network’s news through their own channels (e.g., newsletters, websites, and social media).
- Display the Network’s logo in/on the Member’s space, equipment, website, and other materials.