



Protecting our Pollinators

How to Plant a Pollinator Garden

Design & Location

1. Select a suitable location for your garden, preferably sheltered from prevailing winds, and with plenty of sun throughout the day.
2. Most wildflowers do best in a soil type called loam, this soil is a mix of sand and clay and holds plenty of nutrients and moisture.
3. Consider planting flowers that range in different heights, shapes, and colours. Be sure to group plant flower species together, this will make it easier for the pollinators to locate their target flowers and have plenty of food!
4. Make sure your garden consists of flowers that have staggering bloom times to ensure pollinators have plenty of food supply from spring to fall.
5. Plant as many flowers that are native to your local area as possible, pollinators will be grateful because this will reduce the risk of pests and diseases as well as providing lots of food!
6. Having a variety of colours will attract many types of pollinators to your garden. Butterflies and hummingbirds prefer warm colours like red and yellow and bees prefer cool colours like blue, purple, and white.
7. In addition to plenty of food, pollinators need a water source. Place a dish in or near your pollinator garden with water that has marbles or gravel on the bottom so it is shallow for pollinators!



Maintenance

- Be sure to water sufficiently and fertilize naturally, pollinators are extremely sensitive to chemicals so please don't use them!
- Minimize manicuring the lawn space around the garden, pollinators don't want to be disturbed and the less open space makes them less vulnerable to predators!
- Pull up those pesky weeds by hand, don't use harsh chemicals. Removing unwanted weeds will improve the health of the flowers in your garden.
- Deadhead and prune flowers that are falling out of bloom will leave you with a healthier plant and more blooms.
- Leave grass shavings, fallen twigs or branches, and leaves around your garden, if you do not have a bee house. This can create habitat and shelter for pollinator bees, like mason and miner bees.

Following these points will increase your chances of having a thriving pollinator garden!

An Ideal Pollinator Garden

