



GENERAL TIPS ON CREATING A POLLINATOR FRIENDLY GARDEN

- 1. Save your garden cleanup until spring.**
 - a. Wait to cut back last year's perennials and do general cleanup until daytime temps are in the mid-50's. Your plants are still providing shelter for many overwintering pollinators & other beneficial insects (*link to an excellent YouTube video on fall cleanup to help pollinators: <https://youtu.be/TIZWfFHoUmk>*).
 - b. Stagger your cleanup over a period of days to allow different types of pollinators to warm up and become active.
- 2. Plan for a succession of blooms throughout the growing season – from early spring through fall.**
- 3. Avoid planting too many double flowering plants – they generally have little or no nectar or pollen.**
- 4. Emphasize native plants in your garden – they support native pollinators and your ecosystem.**
- 5. Include native flowering trees, shrubs & vines in your landscape.**
 - a. Some early blooming trees can be the only source of pollen & nectar for early emerging bees.
 - b. Many are larval hosts for butterfly and moth caterpillars.
 - c. They provide habitat for birds and other wildlife.
- 6. Plant a diverse array of plants with different flower shapes, sizes and colors to accommodate a diverse array of pollinators.**
- 7. Plant sizable patches of the same plant to make it easy for pollinators to find them. A 3- foot square patch is a good place to start.**
- 8. Provide nesting sites for bees – often it is not lack of flowers but lack of nesting sites that limit our native bee populations**
 - a. 70% of native bees nest in the ground and need bare or almost bare areas in a sunny spot.
 - b. Most other native bees nest in hollow plant stems, tree cavities, crevices in stone walls and the like.
- 9. Eliminate pesticides from your garden.**
- 10. Reduce the amount of lawn area & create 'edges' in your landscape.**
 - a. Create a border area around your lawn with trees, shrubs and perennials to make a better habitat for pollinators.

SEE GOOD INFORMATION SOURCES LISTED ON THE BACK

GOOD INFORMATION SOURCES

WEBSITES

Sites dedicated to Butterflies, Moths, Bees & Other Insects

- Dupage County Monarch Project - <https://dupagemonarchs.com/>
- Monarch Watch – a site dedicated to education, conservation & research
<https://www.monarchwatch.org/>
- North American Butterfly Association – <https://www.naba.org/>
- Xerces Society – invertebrate conservations <https://www.xerces.org>
- Butterflies & Moths of North America (BAMONA) (collecting and sharing data about Lepidoptera)
<https://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/>

Sites with information about hummingbirds

- All About Birds – The Cornell Lab <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/>
- Hummingbird Central - <https://www.hummingbirdcentral.com/>

Sites related to plants information – identification & information on native & non-native, best plants for pollinators, creating gardens for pollinators

- Pollinator Victory Garden <https://ecobeneficial.com/PVG>
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center <http://www.wildflower.org/plants/>
- U.S. Forest Service – Celebrating Wildflowers - <https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/>

BOOKS

- Bringing Nature Home – Douglas W. Tallamy
- The Pollinator Victory Garden – Kim Eirman
- The Midwest Native Garden – native alternatives to nonnative flowers & plants – Charlotte Adelman & Bernard Schwarz
- Butterfly Gardening – The North American Butterfly Association Guide – Jane Hurwitz

YOUTUBE VIDEOS

- There are many informative videos on YouTube. Try searching using these key words
 - Creating a pollinator friendly garden
 - Hummingbird garden
 - Native North American bees
 - Planting a butterfly garden in the Midwest



