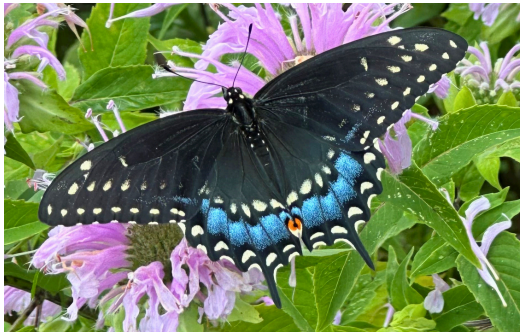


## WHAT ARE POLLINATORS?

Pollination occurs when pollen is moved or carried between flowers. Some plants can pollinate themselves or pollen can travel via wind or water. But many plants need help to move their pollen - that's where animals like bees, butterflies, moths, birds, bats, and smaller mammals come into play. Pollination leads to fertilization and production of seeds and fruits for plants. Apples, peaches, raspberries, potatoes, watermelons and even chocolate are just a few of the foods that need pollinators for production. Nearly 1,000 plants either grown for food and beverage production or medicinal use require pollination from animals. Here in Ohio, some common pollinators you may see around your garden include honey bees, monarch butterflies, and hummingbirds.



## ARE POLLINATORS IN DANGER?

Unfortunately, pollinators worldwide are in danger of decline and have suffered from loss of habitat, chemical usage, disease and competition with invasive species. The decline of pollinators threatens food security, biodiversity, and ecosystem stability.

## CONNECT WITH US



**513-887-3720**



**butlerswcd@bcOhio.gov**



**www.butlerswcd.org**



**1802 Princeton Road, Suite 300, Hamilton, OH 45011**

You can also contact the Butler Soil & Water Conservation District for technical assistance with:

- Ponds
- Streams
- Trees
- Rain gardens
- Drainage
- Erosion problems
- And much more

Visit our pollinators webpage, [www.butlerswcd.org/pollinators](http://www.butlerswcd.org/pollinators), for more information on pollinator plantings. Also stop by our office to check out our Seed Library!



# Plant for Pollinators!



## HOW CAN I HELP?

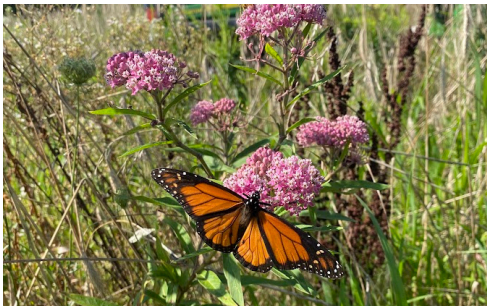
Just by picking up this brochure, you are already helping protect pollinators! There are a number of things that you can do in your own yard to help protect pollinators.

- Plant a pollinator garden
- Plant native plants
- Leave some leaves and twigs over winter for habitat
- Remove invasive plants
- Reduce or eliminate pesticide usage
- Install a bee house, bat house, or butterfly puddler

Even the smallest action like leaving a no mow patch in your yard can help provide habitat for pollinators.

## WHAT ATTRACTS POLLINATORS?

Not only are pollinators important, but many of them are aesthetically pleasing to look at. Lots of people want to see bees, birds, and butterflies in their garden. Bees in particular are specifically adapted to gather and transport pollen. Flowers use a variety of techniques to attract pollinators. Pollinators tend to be attracted to bright colors, strong scents, and open flowers offering high quality nectar and pollen. When selecting flowers, note that nativars are cultivars derived from native parents and bred for a particular trait, but may offer fewer benefits like reduced pollen or nectar.



## HOW TO START MY GARDEN

Planting a pollinator garden may seem overwhelming at first, but there are a lot of resources out there to help guide you in implementing the best pollinator garden possible. Some things to consider before starting your garden:

Think about where you will plant - many flowers that attract butterflies and the butterflies themselves love sunlight.

Be mindful of your soil type. You can get your soil tested at Butler County OSU Extension.

Keep in mind whether the area you plant tends to stay moist or dry when selecting plants.

When selecting plants, consider their size, whether they bloom in the spring or fall, and the diversity. The more diverse plants blooming year round - the more habitat for pollinators.

Note whether you want to grow from seed. Most seeds of temperate plants need to be cold stratified before planting or planted in the fall.



## NATIVE PLANTS

### Flowers/Forbs

- Blue False/Wild Indigo (*Baptisia australis*)
- Common Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*)
- New England Aster (*Symphotrichum novae-angliae*)
- Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)
- Wild Quinine (*Parthenium integrifolium*)
- Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Rough Blazing Star (*Liatris aspera*)
- Cutleaf Coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*)
- Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)
- Bee Balm (*Monarda didyma*)
- Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)
- Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)
- Dense Blazing Star (*Liatris spicata*)
- Joe Pye Weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*)
- Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.)
- Lanceleaf coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*)
- Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Spiderwort (*Tradescantia* spp.)
- Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)

### Shrubs

- Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
- Chokeberry (*Aronia* spp.)
- Elderberry (*Sambucus* spp.)
- Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)
- Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)
- Viburnum (*Viburnum* spp.)

### Trees

- Willow (*Salix* spp.)
- Oak (*Quercus* spp.)
- Maple (*Acer* spp.)
- Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
- Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
- Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*)
- Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)