
5 Steps to Start Your Own Pollinator Garden:

Plant native. Native plants are adapted to conditions in your area and require less inputs than non-native plants. Native plants are necessary to provide food and permanent shelter for insects and wildlife, and they also promote local biological diversity.

Include plants that provide food and shelter all four seasons. Plant flowers that bloom at different times throughout the year to ensure that insects and birds have plenty of food. Include several flower species known to be good sources of pollen and nectar, or that develop seed heads and berries for winter food sources.

Include pollinator host plants. Many pollinators have special relationships with particular plants and depend on them to lay eggs. Include native trees and shrubs if you have the space.

Leave bare soil patches, stems and dead stalks, and fallen leaves as nesting areas. The majority of bee species nest underground, in plant stems, in old wood, and in other natural cavities. Many insects overwinter in leaf litter.

Avoid insecticides. Insecticides can harm pollinators. Always read pesticide labels, follow pesticide restrictions (it's the law!), and look for warnings that they may be harmful to bees.

For more information:

<http://www.virginiamasternaturalist.org/uploads/2/1/1/8/6/21860850/5stepspollinatorgarden.pdf>

www.gpmga.org

Plants that attract pollinators:

- Eastern Redbud
- Sumac
- Beebalm
- Elderberry
- New England Aster
- Butterfly Weed
- Common Milkweed
- Joe Pye Weed
- Goldenrod
- Highbush Blueberry
- Black-eyed Susan
- New Jersey Tea



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Pollinator Garden at Fighting Creek Park



2200 Mann Road
Powhatan, VA 23139

Meet the Pollinators!

How many can you find?



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail:
Virginia's State Insect!



Bumblebee

These are excellent pollinators, and are even more efficient than honeybees. They collect pollen and nectar from flowering plants.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird

These quick moving pollinators work efficiently by carrying pollen on their bills and feathers. They prefer red, orange, and bright pink flowers.

Hummingbird Moth

This pollinator tends to be rarer, and is often confused with a hummingbird. They have long beaks to collect nectar from plants. Their tongue is about double the length of their body.



Hoverfly

Also known as flower flies or Syrphid flies, hoverflies mimic bees but do not sting. Adults feed on pollen and nectar, while the larvae are excellent predators of aphids and other small insects.



Monarch Butterfly

One of the most recognizable butterflies, the Monarch is known for its outstanding migratory patterns and brightly colored wings. Monarch larvae (caterpillars) feed exclusively on native milkweed plants.



Soldier Beetle

These helpful insects are one of the most valuable bugs to have in your garden. They feed on harmful insect species like aphids, and prefer yarrow, milkweed, and goldenrod plants.

Cuckoo Wasp

Also known as emerald or jewel wasps, these solitary wasps lay their eggs in nests of other species. They are attracted to the nectar of milkweed flowers.



Great Spangled Fritillary

The most common fritillary in eastern North America is one of the first impressive butterflies to show up in the spring. The females are darker in color than the males.

