



Welcome to the Pollinator Garden

Why is it important to provide pollinator habitat?

Pollinators play a vital role in the ecosystem by promoting the development of healthy plants and ensuring the production of fruits and vegetables. This helps support food security and healthy ecosystems. Like many animals, pollinators need habitat to survive. Providing shelter from predators and areas to nest is critical to pollinator survival and reproduction. Some examples of pollinator habitat are brush piles, decaying woody debris, river rock, areas with exposed soil, and flowers with hollow stems. Pollinators also need a steady food source from spring to winter. Here are a few native plants you can plant to provide food for pollinators throughout the year.

March to May



Osoberry

May to June



Red flowering currant

June to July



Serviceberry

June to July



Douglas spirea

July to August



Oceanspray

August to September



Kinnickinick



Shrubby cinquefoil



MASON
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Habitat Spotlight: Rock Pile

These river rocks provide an important structure for pollinator habitat. Tunnel nesting bees such as, bumblebees overwinter in protected cavities inside rock piles and walls. Shelter and food are two key components to keeping our pollinators happy and healthy year-round. Rock piles support a diverse beneficial insect population.

How to incorporate into your landscape

- Design a rock feature that fits your landscape. Include a diversity of rock types and make sure to leave air spaces in the pile.
- In the surrounding landscape add native bunch grasses and wildflowers, as a source of food and habitat for other beneficial insects.



Habitat Spotlight: Cover Crops

Planted between seasons, cover crops and meadowscapes nourish our soil, prevent erosion, and naturally suppress weeds. Cover crops create a thriving habitat for pollinators like bees and butterflies, ensuring abundant harvests without relying solely on honey bee hives.

Reducing soil tillage can preserve soil nesting pollinator habitat. Plus, they bring diversity to our garden, offering a variety of textures, and colors.

How to incorporate into your landscape

- Look for spaces between vegetable beds, unused corners, or areas that are prone to weed growth. Prepare the soil by removing any existing weeds or debris.
- Choose varieties that are well-suited for small gardens like clover, buckwheat, or annual ryegrass, as they establish and provide benefits within a shorter time frame.



Habitat Spotlight: Driftwood/Woody Debris

Fallen logs can provide excellent overwintering habitat for pollinators. Numerous insect species burrow into the decaying wood, creating winter residences for mason and leaf cutter bees. This feature can also attract many other pest-eating insects such as ground beetles and spiders. These insects tend to favor the damp areas beneath the logs.

How to incorporate into your landscape

- Add driftwood or dead stumps with bark still attached to your landscape design.
- Position a log horizontally on the ground and bury one end a few inches into the soil for moisture retention. Enhance the habitat further by surrounding sections of the log with smaller branches or rocks.