

FUN FACTS

- 80% of all plants rely on animals for pollination.
- 1 out of every 3 bites of food we eat is thanks to an animal pollinator.
- If you see a bee carrying pollen on its belly or hind legs, it's a female bee.
- Bees have 5 eyes
- Bees have been here for about 30 million years
- Bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, bats, beetles, wasps, and even flies pollinate flowers, but bees pollinate more than any other group.

BEE FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING RESOURCES



Clark.wa.gov: Alternatives to Pesticides: A Guide to Healthier and Happier Gardening

Nwcb.wa.gov: Selecting Plants for Pollinators: A Regional Guide for Farmers, Land Managers, and Gardeners in the Pacific Lowlands

YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT TOO!

Whether you are an individual with a yard or represent a community site, you can join in our collective effort to transform urban natural spaces into thriving habitats and make our cities healthier and more climate resilient for ourselves and for wildlife.

Learn more about Creating Pollinator Habitats and apply to participate in the Habitat at Home Program by visiting the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat at Home Certification Webpage

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/living/habitat-at-home>



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A POCKET GUIDE TO POLLINATOR FRIENDLY LANDSCAPES

Help us in making Washougal a haven for pollinators! By planting native flowers, reducing chemical use, and embracing natural landscaping, we can support our essential pollinators like bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

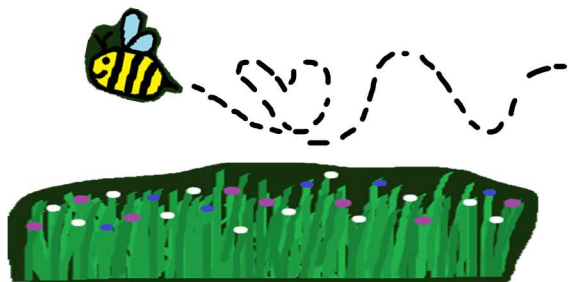
WHY POLLINATORS MATTER

Pollinators are crucial for healthy ecosystems, helping plants reproduce and contributing to the production of fruits and vegetables.

By creating pollinator-friendly spaces, we can enhance biodiversity and support our local environment!


CONSIDER a BEE LAWN


Bee lawns are a mixture of low-input, slow growing grasses like fine fescues and low growing flowers such as Dutch White Clover, Creeping Thyme, and Self Heal. These require little to no fertilizer, minimal watering, and less mowing. Bee lawns attract a higher diversity of bees than lawns with clover alone.




TIPS FOR a POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE



 **Choose Native Plants:** Pollinators are best adapted to native plants, which are often low input (requiring less manual watering and fertilizing). Plant diverse native flowers that will bloom alternatively throughout the spring, summer, and fall seasons. This will attract and serve a wide variety of pollinators throughout the entire growing season.

 **Limit Chemical Use:** Many species of pollinators are on the decline. Chemicals like pesticides and herbicides can harm pollinators and contribute to population decline. Strive to be chemical free by using natural pest control methods and encourage beneficial insects to help keep pest populations in check.

 **Leave Some Areas Wild:** Allowing parts of your garden to grow naturally creates habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.

 **Provide Water Sources:** Shallow dishes of water with pebbles can help thirsty pollinators stay hydrated.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What are the best plants for attracting pollinators?

A: Native flowers are the best choices for attracting pollinators as our native pollinators are best adapted to native flowers. Great choices include sunflowers, yarrow, daisy, goldenrod, lavender, black-eyed susan, milkweed, and so many more. Plant them in large patches to provide great foraging opportunities for our pollinators.

Q: Is it really okay to leave some areas wild?

A: Absolutely! It's an easy way to boost biodiversity, reduce lawn care, and support nature—all while letting your garden thrive naturally. Leaving parts of your garden wild during the spring, summer, and fall offers pollinators food, shelter, and nesting sites throughout the year. During the winter, insects like bees and butterflies can use undisturbed areas for hibernation, ensuring they have a safe space to rest until spring.

Q: How can I reduce my pesticide use?

A: Monitor your garden for pests and use targeted natural remedies like neem oil or insecticidal soap. Chemical free measures can be effective if you regularly monitor your garden and catch pest issues before they become a larger problem. Physical removal such as hand picking or water spraying, and barriers like tents, netting, and pruning are effective chemical free control measures. Encourage beneficial insects like ladybugs and lacewings by tolerating a small number of pests. This will help keep pest populations in check.