

Blackwell Island

Native Plant and Pollinator Garden






Plants, Pollinators and People

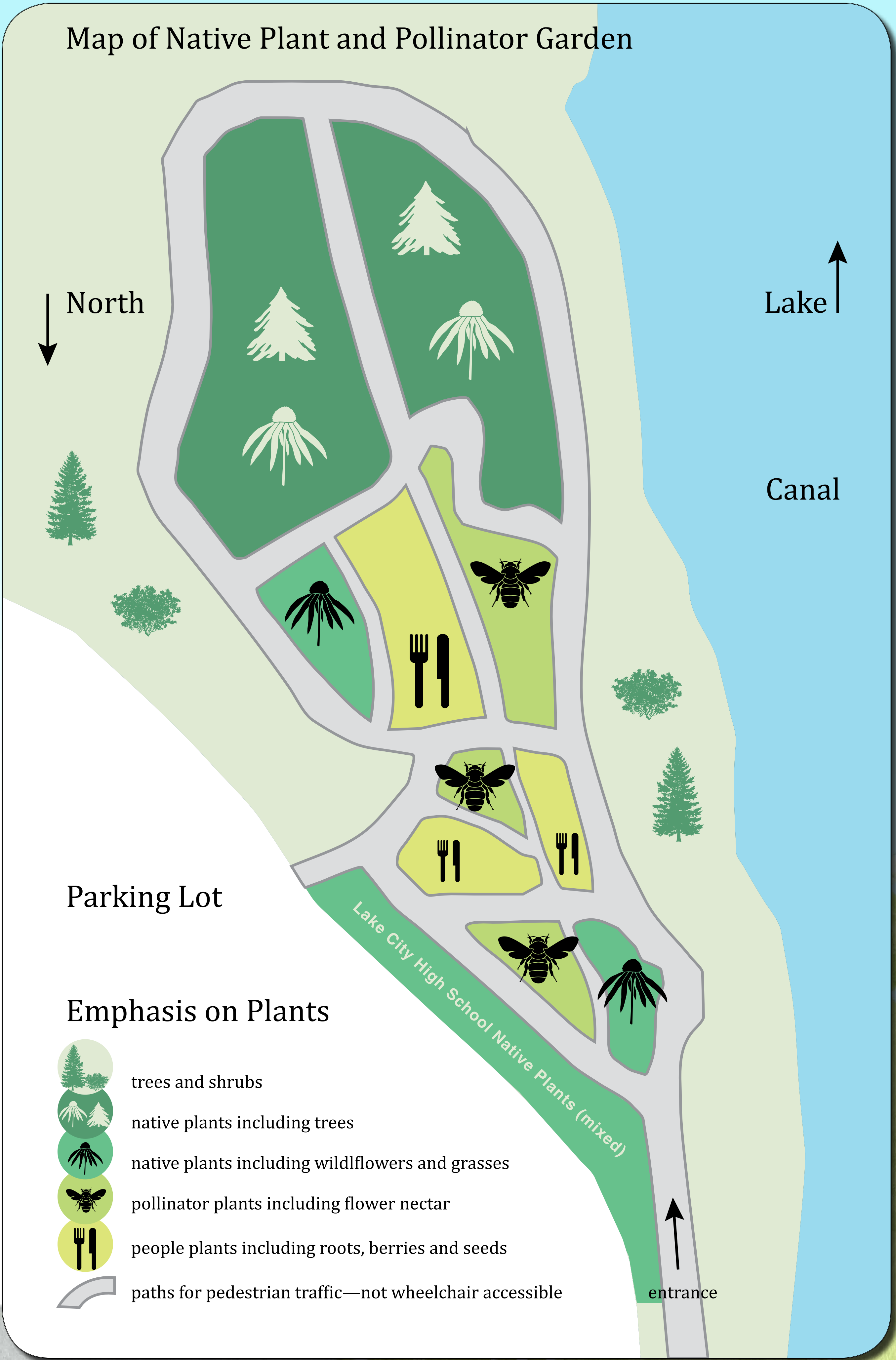
Native plants include many life forms such as trees, shrubs, grasses, wild-flowers, lichen, algae and moss that naturally occur in your backyard! These beautiful plants provide food and shelter for wildlife and you.

Hummingbirds, bats, bees, beetles, butterflies and flies carry pollen from one plant to another as they collect nectar. Over 75% of our flowering plants, and nearly 75% of crops that end up on our dinner table are pollinated by these hard workers.

Why Do Plants and Pollinators Matter to You?

- Without pollinators, wildlife would have fewer nutritious berries and seeds, and you would miss many fruits, vegetables, and nuts, like blueberries, squash, and almonds—not to mention chocolate.
- Wildlife and people depend on pollinators for survival.
- Pollinators rely on native plants for survival.

Habitat Requirements for Native Pollinators 		
Solitary Bees 	Nectar and pollen	Nest in bare and partially vegetated soils where water won't pond; or in beetle holes in deadwood, within pithy stems or twigs or construct nests of mud or leaf pulp
Bumble Bees 	Nectar and pollen	Nest cavity underground, often in old rodent burrows, hollow trees, underground or beneath clumps of grass
Butterflies and Moths 	Nectar; nutrients, minerals and salts from rotting fruit, tree sap, clay deposits and mud puddle	Leaves and stems of larval host plants; also small woodpiles used by species that winter as adults
Hummingbirds 	Nectar; insects, caterpillars, tree sap and willow catkins	Trees, shrubs and vines



Native Plants Benefit You

What is a Native Plant?

Native plants include a number of different life forms, including such as conifer trees, hardwood trees, shrubs, grasses, wildflowers, lichen, algae and moss.

Native Plants Benefit Us

Native plants add beauty to our landscapes. They also benefit the land, wildlife and us in ways we cannot see. They produce the primary fuels of all life—oxygen and sugar.

Look at the diagram and learn other ways that native plants benefit the environment. Native plants and animals adapt to each other, soil and climate creating a balance in the ecosystem.

In exchange for the benefits that plants give the ecosystem, the ecosystem gives back to the plants—sunlight, water, carbon dioxide and nutrients.

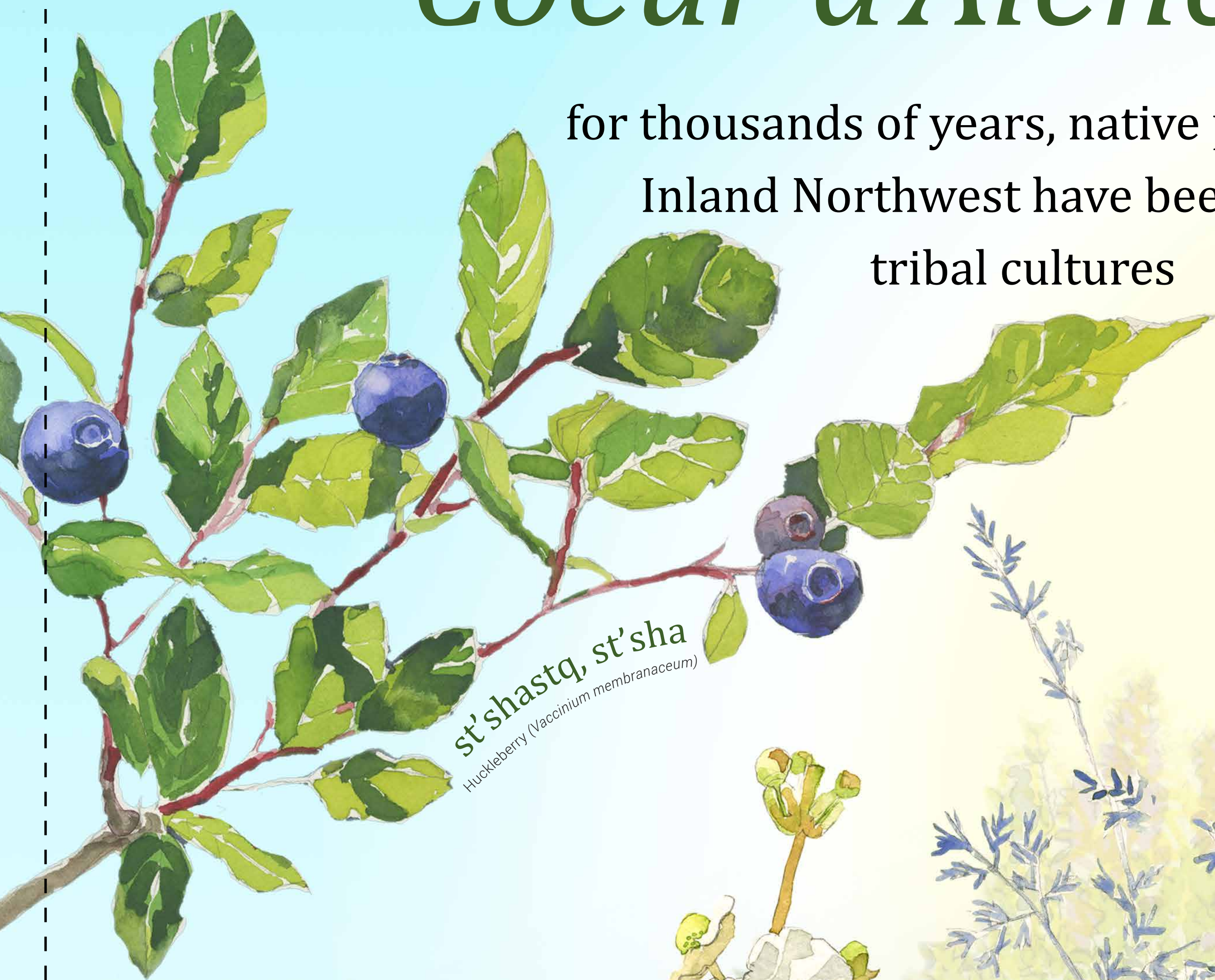


Homeland of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe

for thousands of years, native plants of the
Inland Northwest have been part of
tribal cultures

Reeds, tules, willows, and cedar bark are made into
mats and baskets. Water potatoes, camas bulbs, and
huckleberries provide food. Cedar trees are formed
into dug-out canoes. Throughout time, the Coeur
d'Alene Tribe's stewardship has sustained local
ecosystems and preserved the region's natural bounty
for future generations. Learn the names of these
edible plants in Schitsu'umsh, English and Latin.

Schitsu'umsh means "those who were found here" or
"the discovered people" in English. The modern
Coeur d'Alene Tribe is the sum of uncounted centuries
of untold generations.



st'shastq, st'sha
Huckleberry (*Vaccinium membranaceum*)



sqigwts
Water Potato or Wapato (*Sagittaria latifolia*)



sp'ekhwench
Wild Carrot (*Lomatium macrocarpum*)



etqhwé, sqha'wlutqhwé
Camas Root (*Camassia cuneata*)



smukwa'shn
Arrowleaf Balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza sagittata*)



Plant Your Garden for Pollinators

Why Care About Pollinators?

Often we may not notice the hummingbirds, bats, bees, beetles, butterflies, and flies that carry pollen from one plant to another as they collect nectar. These hard workers pollinate over 75% of our flowering plants, and nearly 75% of our crops.

When a bumble bee feeds on the nectar and pollen of huckleberry flowers, it pollinates the flowers, which will produce fruit eaten by songbirds, grizzly bears, and dozens of other animals, including humans. The bumble bee and other pollinators are known as *keystone species* because you and other species depend on them.

Without pollinators, wildlife would have fewer nutritious berries and seeds. Humans would miss many fruits, vegetables, and nuts, like blueberries, squash, and almonds—not to mention chocolate and coffee.

- *Bee Native*
Pollinators are “best” adapted to local, native plants, which often need less water than ornamentals.
- *Bee Showy*
Flowers should bloom in your garden throughout the growing season. Plant willow, currant, and Oregon grape for spring and aster, rabbit brush and gold-rod for fall flowers.
- *Bee Diverse*
Plant a diversity of flowering species with abundant pollen and nectar and specific plants for feeding butterfly and moth caterpillars.

- *Bee Messy*
70% of native bees nest underground so avoid using weed cloth or heavy mulch.
- *Bee Aware*
Notice which flowers attract bumble bees and which attract butterflies and moths.
- *Bee Patient*
It takes time for native plants to grow and for pollinators to find your garden, especially if you live far from wild lands.
- *Bee Chemical Free*
Pesticides and herbicides kill pollinators.

- *Bee Sunny*
Provide areas with sunny, bare soil that’s dry and well-drained, preferably with south-facing slopes.
- *Bee Homey*
Pile small branches for cocoons. Provide hollow twigs, rotten logs with wood-boring beetle holes. Leave stumps, burrows, and fallen plant material for nesting bees.



Notice the size of the bees, moths, beetles, hummingbirds and flies are exaggerated to emphasize pollinators.

Bee a Pollinator

Keep an eye out for different kinds of bees buzzing around the native plants here at the garden.

Busy as a Bee

Bees are a diverse group of insects that include 4,000 species native to North America. Honeybees are native to Europe.

Bees can be divided into two groups based upon their nesting habits: social or solitary. Some bees such as bumblebees live together in colonies, while others such as mason bees live separately from each other in individual nests. About 75% of North American native bees are solitary nest-builders.

Bees are by far the most effective pollinators because they feed mainly on flower nectar. Bees gather two different kinds of food from flowers. The first food is sugar-rich nectar to fuel their flight, provide energy for colony maintenance and other daily activities. The second food is protein-rich pollen to feed their young.

