Plants, Pollinators and People

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

Hummingbirds, bats, bees, 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitat Requirements for Native Pollinators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Solitary Bees</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nectar and pollen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nest in bare and partially vegetated soils, where water isn't ponded, or in crevices in trunks and branches, within holes in deadwood or in round-mound or conical mounds of mud or leafy pebbles</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bumble Bees</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nectar and pollen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nest in burrows or foliate hollows, beneath trees, under logs or beneath shrubs of grays</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Butterflies and Moths</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nectar, nectaribles,Dactylaspis and smalls, from rotting fruit, tree sap, clay deposits and mud puddles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leaves and stems of larval host plants; also small woodpiles used by species that winter as adults</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hummingbirds</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nectar, nectaribles, cecropia, tree sap and willow catkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees, shrubs and vines</td>
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</tbody>
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Parking Lot

Emphasis on Plants

- trees and shrubs
- native plants including trees
- native plants including wildflowers and grasses
- pollinator plants including flower nectar
- people plants including roots, berries and seeds
- paths for pedestrian traffic—not wheelchair accessible

Map of Native Plant and Pollinator Garden
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.
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.

Plant Your Garden for Pollinators

• Bee Native
  Pollinators are "best" adapted to local, native plants, which often need less water than ornamentals.
• Bee Abundant
  Flowers should bloom in your garden throughout the growing season. Plant willow, currant, and Oregon grape for spring and aster, rabbit brush and goldenrod 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, large stumps, burrows, and fake plant material for nesting bees.

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Notice the size of the bees, moths, butterflies, hummingbirds and fly 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.