

Pollinator-Friendly Gardening



Experts generally agree that pollinator-friendly gardening involves providing habitat (food, water, shelter) and reducing the use of pesticides. A wide variety of plants that flower throughout the seasons, including natives, are recommended. There are a number of free online resources that provide additional guidance, including recommended plant lists and how-to advice. A selection is listed below, including those from Washington State University (WSU), Oregon State University (OSU) and King County.

WSU references, available at pubs.extension.wsu.edu:

- **Beneficial Insects**, Spiders, and Other Mini-Creatures in Your Garden, EM067E
- **Lady Beetles**: Should We Buy Them for our Gardens?, FS268E
- Pesticide Ingredient: **Neonicotinoids**, FS210E
- **Pollination & Protecting Bees** and Other Pollinators, FS174E
- Washington **Bumble Bees** in Home Yards & Gardens, FS263E
- Are **native trees and shrubs** better choices for wildlife in home landscapes?, FS300E

OSU references, available at catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu:

- Create a **Butterfly** Garden, [EC1549](#)
- Encouraging **Beneficial Insects** in Your Garden, [PNW550](#)
- Providing Habitat for **Native Pollinators**, [EC1649](#)

King County:

- Pollinator information: www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/animals-and-plants/biodiversity/defining-biodiversity/species-of-interest/pollinators Website includes links to habitat guidelines and recommended plant lists.

Federal government and other organizations:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: www.fws.gov/pollinators Resources, including planting a pollinator garden and creating nesting sites.

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- U.S. Forest Service: www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators Includes gardening for pollinators and pollinator-friendly practices.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Attracting Hummingbirds to Your Garden Using Native Plants: www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/documents/AttractingHummingbirdsFS-1046April2015.pdf
- Xerces Society, xerces.org Website includes pollinator plant lists by region.
- Pollinator Partnership, www.pollinator.org Website includes planting guides by region.
- National Pollinator Network, millionpollinatorgardens.org Website includes references, resources and links.
- National Wildlife Federation: <http://www.nwf.org/Garden-For-Wildlife/About/National-Initiatives/Pollinators> Website includes guidance on creation of pollinator habitat.
- Great Plant Picks, www.greatplantpicks.org Plant recommendations for our PNW, including those for birds, bees, butterflies and hummingbirds.
- Washington Native Plant Society, wnps.org Plant lists, including natives. Backyard wildlife and habitat resources.

Additional Master Gardener Tip Sheets, including “Gardening Websites” and “Gardening Publications” are available at kingcountymg.org Also see WSU’s “Gardening in Washington State” at gardening.wsu.edu and free downloads of WSU gardening publications at pubs.extension.wsu.edu

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