



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 many free online resources that provide guidance, including recommended plant lists and how-to advice. A selection is listed below, including those from Washington State University (WSU) and Oregon State University (OSU) Extension.

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

- **Pollination & Protecting Bees** and Other Pollinators FS174E
- **Beneficial Insects, Spiders, and Other Mini-Creatures** in Your Garden EMO67E
- Washington **Bumble Bees** in Home Yards & Gardens FS263E
- **Megachilid** (leafcutter & mason) Bees in the Pacific Northwest PNW692
- **Lady Beetles**: Should We Buy Them for our Gardens? FS268E
- Pesticide Ingredient: **Neonicotinoids** FS210E
- Are **native trees and shrubs** better choices for wildlife in home landscapes? FS300E
- Gardening with **Companion Plants** EM128E

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

- Providing Habitat for **Native Pollinators** [EC1649](#)
- Enhancing Urban and Suburban Landscapes to **Protect Pollinators** [EM9289](#)
- A Guide to **Hedgerows**: Plantings That Enhance Biodiversity, Sustainability and Functionality [EM8721](#)
- **Shrubs and Trees** for Bees [EM9391](#)
- **Native Plant** Picks for Bees [EM9363](#)

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:

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- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: www.fws.gov/pollinators Resources, including planting a pollinator garden and creating nesting sites.
- U.S. Forest Service: www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/wildflowers/pollinators/gardening Includes gardening for pollinators and pollinator-friendly best practices.
- 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 mastergardener.wsu.edu/resources/gardening-in-washington-state and free downloads of WSU gardening publications at pubs.extension.wsu.edu