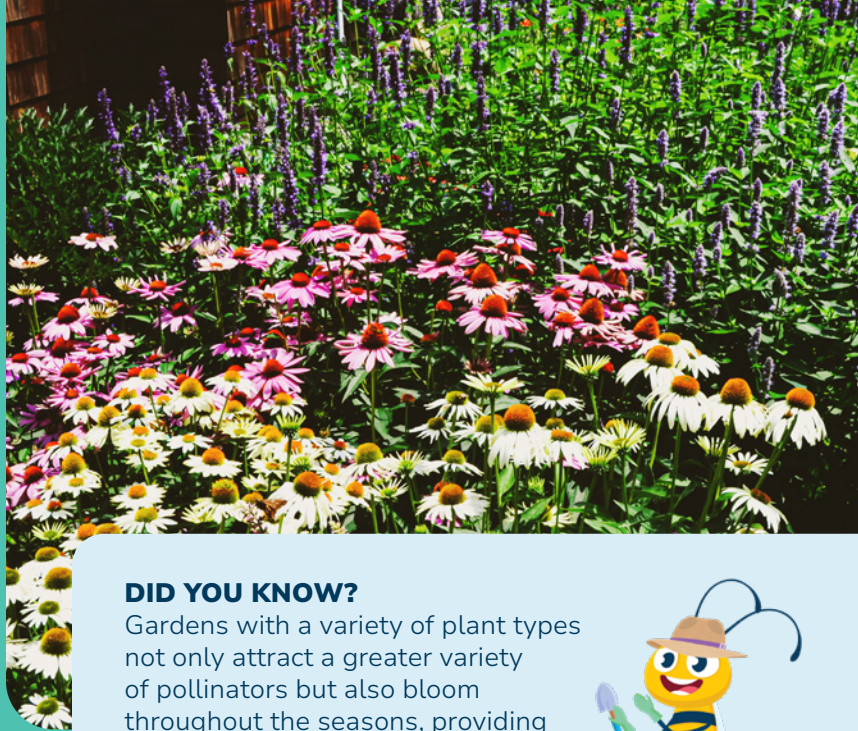


# POLLINATOR GARDENS

## AND THE STEPS TO CREATE YOUR OWN AT HOME

A pollinator garden is a designed area filled with native plants that attract pollinators like bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and other wildlife. This type of garden plays a critical role in ecosystems and food production, while also preventing the decline of pollinators.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Gardens with a variety of plant types not only attract a greater variety of pollinators but also bloom throughout the seasons, providing food sources from early spring to late fall.



Eco-Nico,  
environmental ambassador

## CREATING YOUR OWN: HOW TO GET STARTED

### STEP 1:

#### Select the Right Location

- The ideal location for your pollinator garden is a sunny area of your yard, with at least 5 hours of direct sunlight daily, that offers protection from dominant winds and ample snow cover in the winter for thermal insulation.

### STEP 2:

#### Pick Your Native Plants

- Native plants are a great choice for all types of ecological gardens. They are more ecologically beneficial to local pollinators than traditional non-native ornamental plants.
- When selecting plants, prioritize perennials that bloom at different times of the year.
- You can also choose between starting with seeds or nursery plants. Nursery plants establish more quickly and show faster results, while seeds are more cost-effective and well-suited for larger gardens.
- If you choose to start your garden with seeds, it is important to note that they require more care and attention to become well-established.



SIDE VIEW OF THE GARDEN WITH EACH PLANT AT ITS MAXIMUM FLOWERING SIZE

### STEP 3:

#### Prepare the Area for Planting

- Remove the turfgrass from the selected garden area.
- If you are using seeds, scatter and plant the seeds in the fall and lightly cover them with soil or compost.



- If you are using plants, dig a hole twice the width of the pot or plant plug and at the same depth. Place the plant in the hole, infill it with the soil that you previously dug out and add a layer of 2 to 4 cm of mulch.
- Make sure that the mulch is not touching the bottom leaves of the plant, nor the central stem or crown, to keep the plants healthy.

### STEP 4:

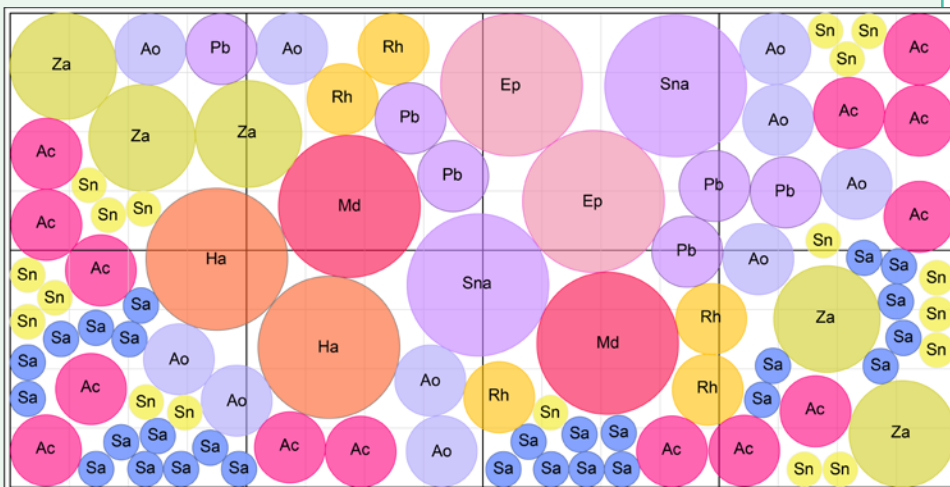
#### Maintain Your Garden

- For the first season of planting, ensure consistent watering, especially during dry season. If you are using a mechanical or automatic sprinkler system, be sure to respect the municipal watering periods.
- Remove invasive plants and common garden weeds to prevent competition with the newly planted plants, which are still establishing themselves.
- Be patient, as some plants, such as milkweed, may take a season or two to flower.

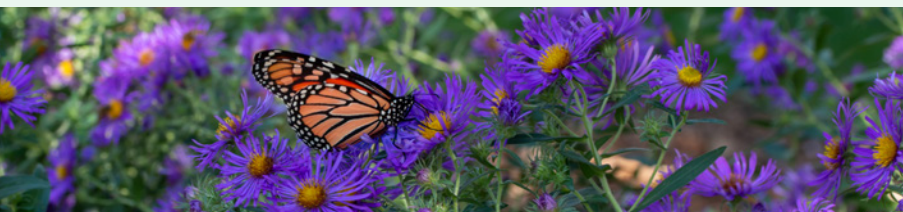
#### LIST OF PLANTS USED

Select plants from the recommended list based on sun exposure and staggered flowering (early spring to fall).

- Sa** *Sisyrinchium angustifolium*  
Blue-Eyed Grass
- Sn** *Solidago nemoralis*  
Old Field Goldenrod
- Ao** *Aster oblongifolius*  
Aromatic Aster
- Ac** *Aquilegia canadensis*  
Columbine
- Pb** *Penstemon barbatus*  
Bearded Penstemon
- Rh** *Rudbeckia hirta*  
Black-Eyed Susan
- Za** *Zizia aurea*  
Golden Alexanders
- Ep** *Eutrochium purpureum*  
Joe-Pye Weed
- Ha** *Helenium autumnale*  
Sneezeweed
- Md** *Monarda didyma*  
Bee Balm
- Sna** *Symphotrichum noae-angliae*  
New England Aster



EXAMPLE OF PLANT ARRANGEMENT IN A GARDEN MEASURING 4 M X 2 M (12 FT X 6 FT)  
(Each little grid square is 25 cm)



Scan to access list of suggested plants for pollinator gardens and learn more about other types of gardens.

