

HUMMINGBIRDS

BEEETLES

# THE TRUTH ABOUT THE BIRDS AND THE BEES

Most flowering plants rely on animals called pollinators to reproduce. One-third of human food crops need pollination. A world without pollinators would be a world without apples, blueberries, strawberries, chocolate, almonds, pumpkins, and many other important food, fiber, and medicinal plants. Declines in certain pollinator populations and localized ecosystem disruptions have been reported worldwide. The causes of pollinator declines include loss of habitat, misuse of pesticides, invasive plants and animals, diseases, and parasites.

WASPS

BEEES

While visiting flowers to collect nectar or pollen, pollinators brush against the reproductive parts of the flower, depositing pollen from a recently visited flower. This step is necessary for many plants to produce fruits and seeds.

FAVORITE FLOWER COLOR

Preferences unknown

Status unknown; currently no known studies of pollination trends.

STATUS

GET TO KNOW OUR POLLINATORS



OUR FUTURE FLIES ON THE WINGS OF POLLINATORS. Flip this wheel over to find out what you can do to help pollinators.

BATS

BUTTERFLIES

MOths

Images provided by: Beatrix Molesart; Merlin D. Tuttle; James Hanks; Margaret Williams; Rhonda Nadeau; Patti Solberg; Mo Freyzer; Tom Barnes; University of KY; Jennifer Anderson; USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database; Robert L. Robinson; National Wetlands Research Center; USDA Forest Service; USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database; G.A. Cooper; USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database; Larry Hahn; National Wetlands Research Center; USDA Forest Service; USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database; James H. Miller and Kelly Miller; USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

# CREATE YOUR OWN POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY GARDEN!

- **Color talks.** Different-colored flowers attract different kinds of pollinators. Plan your garden to have a wide variety of colorful blooms throughout the spring and summer.
- **Go native.** Focus on plants that are native to your region, which are adapted to cooperate with many of your local pollinators.
- **Create a big target.** Arrange pollinator-attracting plants in clumps, rather than single plants. This will help pollinators to find flowers more easily.
- **No yard?** Add pollinator-friendly plants to window boxes and balconies!

## USE PESTICIDES RESPONSIBLY

To help protect pollinators, reduce the level of pesticides used in and around your home. If you must use pesticides, switch to those that are targeted to those pests and try to spray only when pollinators are not in your garden, such as at night or when flowers are not in bloom.

## GET ACTIVE!

City parks, greenways, schools, golf courses, and community gardens can all easily be made into pollinator havens. Support farms and businesses that limit their use of pesticides to protect pollinators.

## LEARN MORE

<http://dels.nas.edu/pollinators>  
<http://www.pollinator.org>  
 or visit your local native plant society.

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# GOOD PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS



Bee Balm/  
Oswego Tea

**TIPS CAUTIONS AND OTHER COOL STUFF**

**POLLINATORS IT ATTRACTS**  
Butterfly, Hummingbird, and/or Bee

**Monarda didyma**  
Bloom season: Summer

**WHERE IT GROWS IN THE U.S.**  
Northwest, Southwest, North Central, South Central, Northeast, Southeast

**SUN REQUIREMENTS**

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AVEDA  
The art and science of pure flowers and plant essences