#### Suggested Plant List

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Symphyotrichum laeve	Zizia aptera	Asclepias tuberosa	Monarda didyma, Monarda fistulosa	Pycnanthemum muticum	Lobelia siphilitica	Lobelia cardinalis	Helianthus annuus	Echinacea purpurea	Agastache foeniculum		Plant Name
×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		Full Sun
×	×		х	×	×				×		Semi-shade
		х		×		×		×	×	soil	Well drained
×				×	×	×				retentive soil	Moisture
×	х	х							х		Dry soil
					×	×		×		high organic material	Rich soil-
		×		×						soil	Nutrient Poor
			×	×						aggressive	Can be

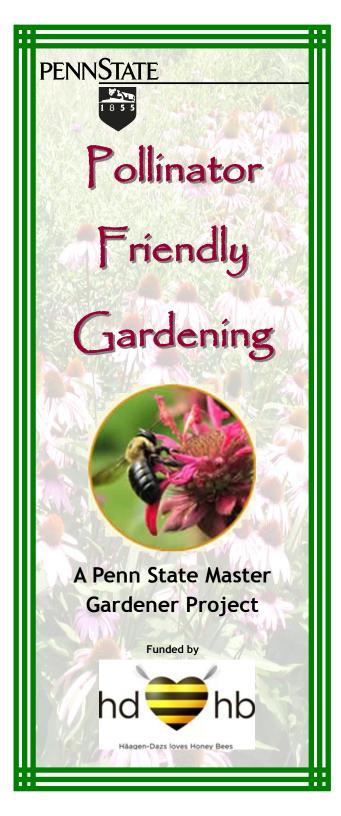
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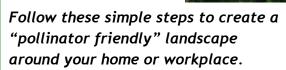


Swallowtail butterfly on Echinacea purpurea

Penn State Master Gardener http://horticulture.psu.edu/ node/202



## Gardening for Pollinators



- You do not need a lot of space A few containers, of the right kinds of plants tucked into your existing garden or a small designated "pollinator friendly" garden, will get you started. Most pollinator plants need at least 6 hours of sunlight a day.
- Use a wide variety of plants that bloom from early spring into late fall

Help pollinators find and use them by planting in clusters or drifts of the same plant. Use plants native to your region, as natives are four times more attractive to pollinators. Include a variety of flower shapes to attract different kinds of pollinators.

#### Include larval host plants in your landscape

If you want colorful butterflies, grow

plants for caterpillars. Caterpillars WILL eat these host plants, so place them where leaf damage can be tolerated. Realize that some host plants are less than ornamental.



#### Avoid modern hybrid flowers, especially those with "doubled" flowers

Often plant breeders have unwittingly left the pollen, nectar and fragrance out of these blossoms while creating the "perfect" blooms for us.

#### ♦ Eliminate pesticides whenever possible

If you must use a pesticide, use the leasttoxic material possible. Before purchasing, read labels carefully, as many pesticides

are especially dangerous for bees. Always use the product according to label instructions. Spray after dusk when bees and other pollinators are not active.



#### Provide water

Pollinators will gather at shallow pools or very shallow bird baths. Water seeping to create mud puddles will benefit mason bees. Mud puddles also provide important minerals for pollinators, including butterflies. Try adding a quarter inch of sand to a saucer. Add water until the sand is slightly covered. A few flat stones that rise above the water will give visiting pollinators easy access to the water.

#### Leave bare ground for ground nesting bees; go easy on the rototilling

Very few bees can nest in manicured lawns. Leave a 3' by 3' spot of bare ground in a sunny location. Ground nesting bees may use the same nesting locations for many years if undisturbed. Leave garden cleanup until spring

(Except for diseased plant material that should be removed and destroyed.) Many beneficial insects overwinter in the dried stalks of plants. Do not remove dried hollow plant stems until late spring. Native ornamental grasses are good protection from winter winds for birds and small mammals. The seed will be welcome food for birds when normal food sources are gone.

#### ♦ Remove invasive species

Invasive species displace important pollinator plants. Don't plant invasives. Remove existing invasives before they escape to natural areas.

# Some websites and

### references

Haagen-Dazs Help the Honey Bees http://www.helpthehoneybees.com/ Xerces Society www.xerces.org

U.S. Forest Service Pollinator website http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/ pollinators/index.shtml

#### **Discover Life**

http://www.discoverlife.org/

Natural Resources Conservation Services ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/WHMI/WEB/ pdf/TechnicalLeaflets/NativePolinators.pdf Center for Pollinator Research http://ento.psu.edu/pollinators/publicoutreach