

# Examples of Pollinator-Attracting Plants for Ontario:

## Trees

**Sugar Maple** (*Acer saccharum*)  
**Red Maple** (*Acer rubrum*)  
**Hawthorn** (*Crataegus* spp.)

**Black Cherry** (*Prunus serotina*)  
**Willows** (*Salix* spp.)  
**Ohio Buckeye** (*Aesculus glabra*)

**American Basswood**  
(*Tilia americana*)  
**Canada Plum** (*Prunus nigra*)

## Shrubs

**Chokecherry** (*Prunus virginiana*)  
**Elderberry** (*Sambucus nigra*)  
**Snowberry** (*Symphoricarpos alba*)

**Staghorn Sumac** (*Rhus typhina*)  
**Red Raspberry** (*Rubus idaeus*)

**Black Raspberry** (*Rubus occidentalis*)  
**Blueberry** (*Vaccinium angustifolium*)

## Herbaceous Plants

**Bee Balm** (*Monarda didyma*)  
**Meadowsweet** (*Spiraea alba*)  
**False Indigo** (*Amorpha fruticosa*)  
**Jewelweed** (*Impatiens capensis*)  
**Fireweed** (*Epilobium angustifolium*)  
**Common Milkweed** (*Asclepias syriaca*)

**Swamp Milkweed** (*Asclepias incarnata*)  
**Butterflyweed** (*Asclepias tuberosa*)  
**Blue Vervain** (*Verbena hastata*)  
**Joe-Pye Weed** (*Eupatorium maculatum*)  
**Goldenrod** (*Solidago canadensis*)  
**New England Aster** (*Aster novae-angliae*)

**Common Sunflower**  
(*Helianthus annuus*)  
**Purple Coneflower** (*Echinacea purpurea*)  
**Lavender Hyssop** (*Agastache foeniculum*)  
**Evening Primrose** (*Oenothera biennis*)  
**Rough Blazing Star** (*Liatris aspera*)

## Resources

- The Pollinator Partnership:  
<http://pollinator.org>
- North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC):  
<http://pollinator.org/nappc/index.html>
- Pollination Canada:  
<http://www.pollinationcanada.ca>
- Pollination Guelph:  
<http://www.pollinator.ca>

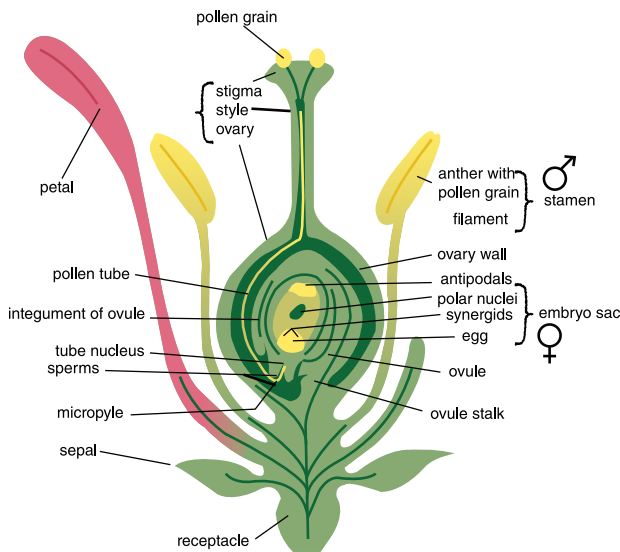
## Other Works Cited

The Honeybee Conservancy (n.d.). Plant a Bee Garden. Accessed from:  
<http://thehoneybeeconservancy.org/act-today-2/plant-a-bee-garden/>



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## What is Pollination?



- Pollination is the transfer of pollen from the anther to the stigma. Next the pollen grain will fertilize an egg of the plant. If pollination and fertilization are successful the fertilized egg will grow into a seed.
- Almost 90% of flowering plants rely on pollinators for fertilization.
- 35% of our diet relies on pollinators – this statistic does not include beverages, fibers and medicine which also rely heavily on pollinators.

## Who are Pollinators?

- Insects such as bees (honey, bumble, other) and butterflies, moths, wasps, beetles and ants.
- Birds (e.g., hummingbird), some bats and a few animals (e.g., mice)

## Why are Pollinators Important to Your Vegetable Garden?

- Pollination must occur in order for plants to produce seeds.
- Many fruits and vegetables will not produce fruit unless they are pollinated.
- Pollination is also important for high yield and quantity of many fruits and vegetables

## Tips for Attracting Pollinators in Your Garden

1. Rethink your lawn. Replace some of your lawn with flowering plants.
2. Leave some weeds alone. Consider keeping flowering weeds which are sources of nectar for pollinators.
3. Go organic. Avoid using herbicides, fertilizers or pesticides which can be toxic to pollinators
4. Provide water. You can provide water in a birdbath, a shallow dish of water placed on the ground (also fill with pebbles or twigs for insects to land on while drinking; replace regularly with fresh water), or by shallow water collection sites in your yard (i.e., leave alone or create mud puddles).
5. Provide sites and materials for nesting and overwintering. Leave twigs and brush in small piles. Mow your grass high and leave some patches of long grass. Make a bee box for your backyard.

## Planting a Pollinator Garden

1. Space is no limit. A 1-square meter bed is more than adequate. Containers/pots and flower boxes will also work.
2. Create clusters of flowering plants. Group flowering plants together (1 square meter) to increase the overall attraction of the site to a greater diversity of pollinators.
3. Plant native flowering plants. Use native plants to which the local pollinators will be adapted and attracted.
4. Plant flowers that produce lots of nectar and pollen. Single flower tops (e.g., daisies and marigolds) are better than double flower tops (e.g., double impatiens). Avoid planting highly hybridized plants.
5. Flowering plants can be edible. Pollinators are attracted to any flowering plant – not just decorative flowers. Flowering plants include vegetable and fruit plants, shrubs and trees; herbs; and other edible plants.
6. Offer variety. Diversify the plants in your garden to offer pollinators a variety of flowers – shapes, fragrances, and colours (e.g., blue, red and violet are the best attractors).
7. Plan a 3-season blooming garden. Provide pollinators with a constant source of food with a variety of plants so that your garden blooms in spring, summer and fall.

