

# Pollinator Garden

## Native plants of Ontario

Pollinator Gardens help to support a variety of wildlife from insects to birds and small mammals. The plants in this garden are native to Ontario - meaning they have evolved with the changing landscapes and are adapted to the climate. This makes them a superior choice for wildlife, and sometimes a critical habitat for species that rely solely on these plants for survival.

### **Blackeyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)**

BLOOMS: June – October

WILDLIFE VALUE: Nectar source for bees, butterflies and other insects; larval host to the Wavy-Lined & Southern Emerald Moth, Common Eupithecia Moth and the Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly. Also a winter seed source for birds.



### **Dotted Bee Balm (*Monarda punctata*)**

BLOOMS: July – September

WILDLIFE VALUE: The primary visitors to this native perennial are wasps, especially great black, great golden digger and paper wasps. This plant is the larval host for the Gray Marvel Moth and the Snout Moth.



### **Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)**

BLOOMS: June - August

WILDLIFE VALUE: Attracts a variety of milkweed-specific insects and beetles; larval host to monarch butterflies; nectar source for many butterfly species; pollen source for native bees.



### **Ohio Spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohioensis*)**

BLOOMS: April - July

WILDLIFE VALUE: Attracts a high number of native bees and bumblebees. The flowers do not have any nectaries, so insect visits are for pollen feeding and collection only.



### **Anise Hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*)**

BLOOMS: June - September

WILDLIFE VALUE: A great plant for pollinators! Bees and butterflies love the nectar and pollen in the tubular flowers.



### **Foxglove Beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)**

BLOOMS: May - July

WILDLIFE VALUE: Attracts hummingbirds, and is a specialized flower for small and medium sized bees such as the mason bee.



### **Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)**

BLOOMS: June – August

WILDLIFE VALUE: Attracts a variety of milkweed-specific insects and beetles; larval host to three butterflies including Monarchs and Milkweed Tussock Moth; nectar source for many butterflies; pollen source for native bees.



### **New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)**

BLOOMS: August – October

WILDLIFE VALUE: Attracts a high number of native bees and butterflies; larval host for the Pearl Crescent and Silvery Checkerspot Butterflies and the Canadian Sonia Moth.



### **Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)**

BLOOMS July - September

WILDLIFE VALUE: One of the best forage plants for bumblebees, its flowers open continuously throughout the day, providing ongoing nectar rewards as older flowers are depleted and replaced by newly opened flowers. Larval Host plant for the Hermit Sphinx Moth and the Snout Moth.



### **Wild Petunia (*Ruellia humilis*)**

BLOOMS: June – August

WILDLIFE VALUE: Native bees visit the flowers for both pollen and nectar. This plants is the larval host for the Common Buckeye butterfly.



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