



Pollinator Plant Guide

Planting flowers is one of the best ways to help our native pollinators. Not only does it help restore declining populations, but it keeps your home looking beautiful! Anyone can plant pollinator flowers, whether it is in a pot on your balcony, or in garden bed in your backyard. Creating a large pollinator landscape will attract all sorts beneficial insects that will help keep your blooms showy year after year!

Important tips for pollinator planting:

- Ensure the flowers you plant are **non-invasive** in your region; native species are best. Introducing invasive species to an area can have disastrous effects, like dominating the landscape by competing with native plants, or transmitting diseases that native plants or animals are not equipped to deal with.
- Avoid **hybrids**. Many hybrid versions of wildflowers, such as the “double-flowered” types, are bred to eliminate nectar and pollen to display more showy flowers – this does not provide any sort of nourishment for pollinators.
- Plant a wide **variety** of early, mid, and late season bloomers in large **clumps**, so they can easily be seen by pollinators.
- Eliminate the use of **pesticides** in your garden; even some organic-approved pesticides can still be harmful to pollinators.
- Provide larval **host** plants for butterflies to encourage them to lay eggs in your garden. Then you can watch the caterpillars grow and develop into more butterflies!

Use the guide below to find out which native Ontario plants are best for your pollinator garden.

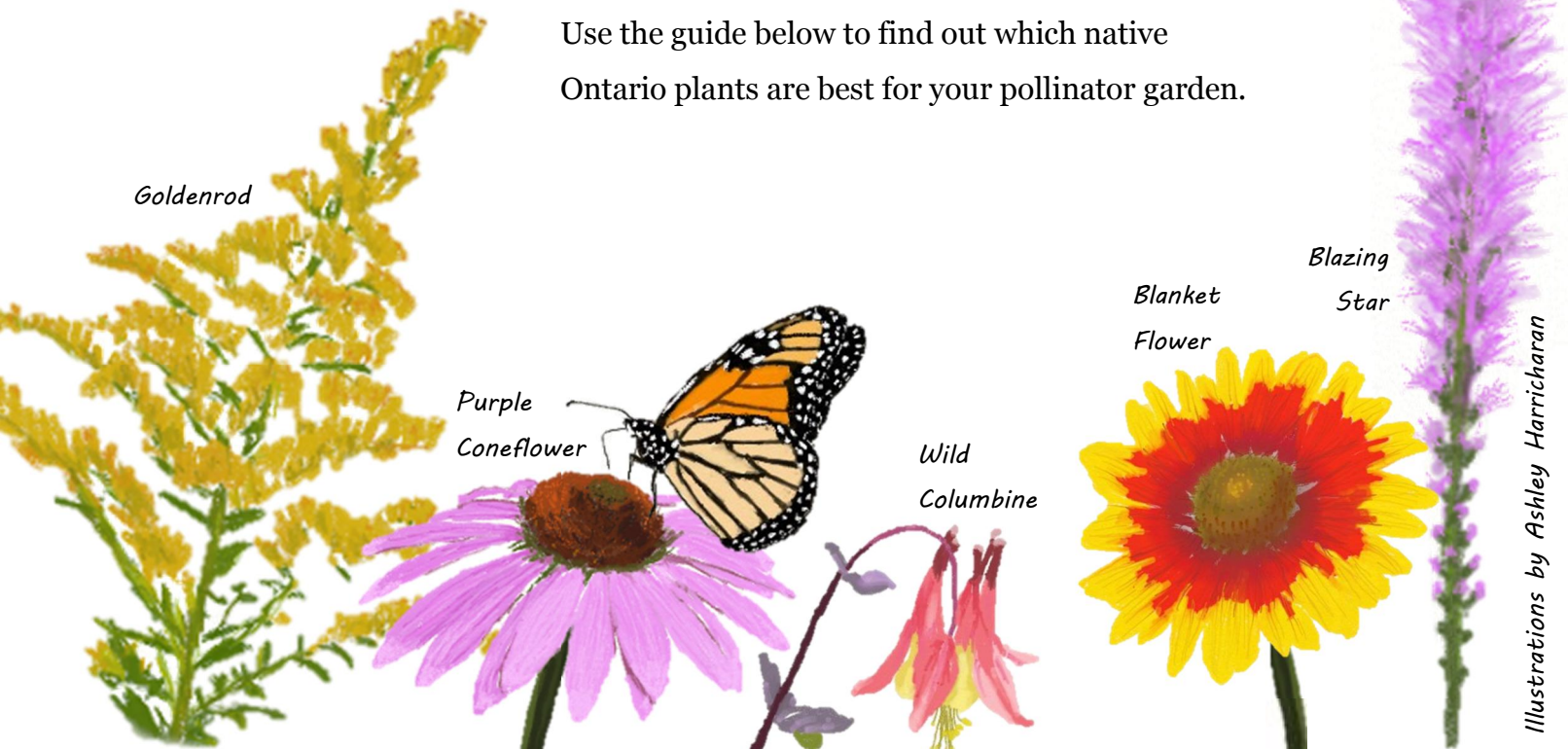
Goldenrod

*Purple
Coneflower*

*Wild
Columbine*

*Blanket
Flower*

*Blazing
Star*



Native Ontario Pollinator Plants

| | Name | Bloom Period | Sunlight | Moisture Level | Flower Color | Height |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| FLOWERS | Black-eyed Susan | Aug - Oct | Full Sun | Dry - Moist | Yellow | 2 – 3 ft. |
| | Blanket Flower | July – Aug | Full Sun | Dry | Red/Yellow | 1-2 ft. |
| | Butterfly Weed | July - Aug | Full Sun | Dry - Moist | Red/Orange | 2 – 3 ft. |
| | Canada Goldenrod | Aug - Oct | Full Sun | Dry | Yellow | 4 – 5 ft. |
| | Joe Pye Weed | June - Sept | Full – Part Sun | Wet - Moist | Pink | 3 – 7 ft. |
| | New England Aster | June - Sept | Full – Part Sun | Moist | Pink/Purple | 1 – 3 ft. |
| | Lance-leaved Coreopsis | Aug - Sept | Full – Part Sun | Dry | Yellow | 1 – 2 ft. |
| | Purple Coneflower | April - July | Full – Part Sun | Moist | Purple | 2 – 4 ft. |
| | Spiked Blazing Star | June - Aug | Full Sun | Dry | Pink/Purple | 2 – 3 ft. |
| | Swamp Milkweed | May - Sept | Full – Part Sun | Wet - Moist | Pink | 3 – 4 ft. |
| | Wild Bergamot | May - Aug | Full – Part Sun | Dry - Moist | Pink/Purple | 1 – 3 ft. |
| | Wild Columbine | June - Sept | Full – Part Sun | Moist | Red/Pink | 1 – 3 ft. |
| TREES&SHRUBS | Blueberry | May - June | Full Sun | Dry - Moist | White/Pink | 2 – 4 ft. |
| | Chokecherry | May - June | Full | Moist | White | 20 – 30 ft. |
| | Common Elderberry | July - Aug | Full – Part Sun | Moist | White | 4 – 12 ft. |
| | New Jersey Tea | March - April | Part Shade | Dry - Moist | White | 2 – 3 ft. |
| | Raspberry | Jun - Sept | Full - Part Sun | Dry - Moist | White/Pink | 1 – 3 ft. |
| | Serviceberry | April - May | Full Sun – Shade | Dry - Moist | White | 10 – 30 ft. |

Where to buy:

Many native plants and seeds can be purchased at your local nursery or garden retailer. Seeds can also be ordered online from dedicated native nurseries all over Ontario. Be sure to check in your newspaper or online for community seed exchanges or sales.

Please do not take any flowers, seeds, or branches from the wild.

Thank You for Helping the Pollinators – Happy Planting!

