

# Planning your garden – think like a pollinator.

## Go Native.

Pollinators are “best” adapted to local, native plants, which often need less water than ornamentals.

## Bee Showy.

Flowers should bloom in your garden throughout the growing season. Plant willow, currant, and Oregon grape for spring and aster, rabbit brush and goldenrod for fall flowers.

## Bee Bountiful.

Plant big patches of each plant species (better foraging efficiency.)

## Bee Patient.

It takes time for native plants to grow and for pollinators to find your garden, especially if you live far from wild lands.

## Bee Gentle.

Most bees will avoid stinging and use that behavior only in self-defense. Male bees do not sting.

## Bee Chemical Free.

Pesticides and herbicides kill pollinators.

## Bee Sunny.

Provide areas with sunny, bare soil that’s dry and well-drained, preferably with south-facing slopes.

## Bee Homey.

Make small piles of branches to attach chrysalis or cocoons. Provide hollow twigs, rotten logs with wood-boring beetle holes and bunchgrasses and leave stumps, old rodent burrows, and fallen plant material for nesting bees. Leave dead or dying trees for woodpeckers.

## Bee Aware.

Observe pollinators when you walk outside in nature. Notice which flowers attract bumble bees or solitary bees, and which attract butterflies.

## Bee a little messy.

Most of our native bee species (70%) nest underground so avoid using weed cloth or heavy mulch.

## Bee Diverse.

Plant a diversity of flowering species with abundant pollen and nectar and specific plants for feeding butterfly and moth caterpillars.

