QUICK GUIDE:

Planting for Pollinators

While Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) continues to be studied, we know pesticide use and habitat loss are leading causes of it. We often think of pollinators as only honeybees, yet in North America, there are over 4,000 wild bee species (300+ that are native to NC) as well as many bats, birds, and butterflies. With a little planning, you can provide a welcoming habitat for them. These plant lists are specifically for this eco-region, and will provide nectar, forage (food), and habitat for pollinators.

FLOWERS • HERBS

Perennials FOR POLLINATORS

ANISE HYSSOP (*Agastache*) - bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
ASTERS - bees, butterflies
BEEBALM - bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
BLACKEYED SUSAN - bees, butterflies
BLANKETFLOWER (*Gaillardia*) - bees
BLUE MIST/BLUE BEARD - bees, butterflies
CALAMINT, CATMINT - bees, butterflies
COLUMBINE - bees, hummingbirds
COMFREY - bees
CONEFLOWER - bees, butterflies
COREOPSIS - bees, butterflies
CORNFLOWER (*Centaurea*) - bees
CRANESBILL (*Geranium*) - bees
DAYLILY - butterflies
DIANTHUS - butterflies
EASTERN BLUESTAR (*Amsonia*) - moth, butterfly, hummingbird
EVENING PRIMROSE - bees, hummingbirds
FOAMFLOWER - bees, butterflies
FOXGLOVE - bees, hummingbirds
HELLEBORE/LENTEN ROSE - bees
HEUCHERA - bees, hummingbirds
HOLLYHOCK - butterflies, hummingbirds
IRIS - bees
IRONWEED - bees, butterflies
GAURA - bees, butterflies
GERMANDER - bees
GREEN 'N GOLD (*Chrysogonum*) -bees
GOLDENROD - bees, butterflies
HELENIUM - bees (many)
JOE PYE WEED - bees, butterflies, caterpillar host
LAMB'S EAR - bees
LANTANA - bees, butterflies
LAVENDER - bees, butterflies
LEMON BALM - bees, butterflies
LIATRIS - bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
MILKWEED/BUTTERFLY WEED - bees, butterflies
MOUNTAIN MINT - bees, butterflies
OBEDIENT PLANT - bees, butterflies
OREGANO - bees
PASSIONFLOWER - bees
PENSTEMON - bees
PHLOX - bees, butterflies
PINCUSHION FLOWER - butterflies
PINK MUHLY GRASS - bees*
PINK TURTLEHEAD - bees
POKER PLANT (Kniphofia) - bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
SAGE (Flowering)- bees, butterflies, hummingbirds(Culinary) - bees
SEDUM - bees, butterflies
SHASTA DAISY - bees, butterflies
SPIDERWORT - bees
STOKE'S ASTER - bees
SUNFLOWER - bees, caterpillar host
SWITCHGRASS - bees*
LITTLE BLUESTEM (*Schizachryium*) - bees*
VERBENA - bees, butterflies
VIRGINIA BLUEBELLS - bees
VERONICA/SPIKE SPEEDWELL - bees, butterflies
WALLFLOWER - bees, butterflies
WILD INDIGO - bees, butterflies
YARROW - bees, butterflies
YUCCA - hummingbirds

*habitat

HOW TO ENCOURAGE POLLINATORS

- Create beds 4' in diameter of the same type of plant, so pollinators can easily visit the same flowers.
- Choose plants with differing bloom times, flower colors and shapes to attract a variety of pollinators and support many species.
- Early-blooming plants are beneficial to pollinators, prior to spring.
- Incorporate native plants, (bees often prefer these to hybrids).
- To protect ground-nesting bees, minimize soil disturbance (tilling, etc.).
- Amend beds with organic matter/ compost for and plentiful blooms.
- Provide generous shelter, water, and food sources.
- Leave dead stems for bee nesting.
- Leave water in birdbaths, ponds, shallow dishes with sloping sides.
- Mud puddles provide butterflies with essential nutrients.
- Leave out small pieces of fruit to attract butterflies.
- Limit or refrain from pesticide use completely. If using, spray before dawn, at dusk, or after dusk, to avoid bees' foraging times.
- Accept some short-term plant damage. |If you can't see it from 15' away, you can consider allowing it.

FLOWERS • HERBS • VEGETABLES

Annuals FOR POLLINATORS

ALYSSUM - bees, butterflies
BASIL - bees, butterflies
BEGONIA - hummingbirds
BREADSEED POPPY - bees
CALIFORNIA POPPY - bees
CATNIP - bees
CIGAR PLANT - hummingbirds
CLEOME - bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
COSMOS - bees, butterflies
EGGPLANT - bees
GAZANIA - bees, butterflies
HELIOTROPE - bees, butterflies
HERBS - Basil, borage, chives, dill, summer savory, fennel, parsley
IMPATIENS - bees
LANTANA - bees, butterflies
MARIGOLDS - bees, butterflies
MEXICAN HEATHER - bees
MORNING GLORY (vine) - bees
PARSLEY - butterflies, caterpillar host
PEAS/BEANS/LEGUMES - bees
PENTAS - bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
PETUNIA - butterflies
PHLOX - bees, butterflies
PORTULACA - bees
SALVIA - bees, hummingbirds
SQUASH - bees
SUNFLOWERS - bees, butterflies
SWEET WILLIAM (biennial) - bees
VERBENA - bees, butterflies
ZINNIA - bees, butterflies

Shrubs FOR POLLINATORS

ABELIA - bees, butterflies
BEAUTYBERRY - bees
BLACKBERRY - bees, moths
BLUEBERRY - bees
BOTTLEBRUSH BUCKEYE - bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
BUTTERFLYBUSH - bees, butterflies, moths
CHINESE REDBUD - bees, butterflies
CITRUS - bees, caterpillar host
CREPE MYRTLE - bees, hummingbirds
FATSIA - beneficial wasps
FOTHERGILLA - bees
INKBERRY - bees, caterpillar host
LILAC - butterflies
NINEBARK - bees, butterflies, birds
PEEGEE HYDRANGEA - bees
PEPPERBUSH (*Clethra*) - bees, butterflies
RASPBERRY - bees, moths
ROSE-OF-SHARON - butterflies
SERVICEBERRY - bees, butterflies, caterpillar host
SPIREA - bees
ST. JOHNS WORT - bees
SUMAC - bees, butterflies
SWEETSPIRE - bees
VIBURNUM - butterflies
WINTERBERRY- bees

Trees FOR POLLINATORS

AMERICAN YELLOWWOOD - bees
BLACK LOCUST (*Robinia*) - bees, hummingbirds, moths
BUCKEYE/HORSECHESTNUT - bees, hummingbirds
CHASTE TREE (*Vitex*) - bees, butterflies
CORNELIANCHERRY dogwood-bees
CREPE MYRTLE - bees, hummingbirds
FLOWERING APRICOT, CHERRY, CRABAPPLE, PLUM, PEACH (Except Kwanzan cherry) - bees
GOLDENRAIN TREE - bees
PUSSY WILLOW (*S. caprea*) - bees, caterpillar host
REDBUD - bees, caterpillar host
SOURWOOD - bees
MAGNOLIA - bees, caterpillar host
MIMOSA - bees, hummingbirds
TULIP POPLAR - bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, caterpillar host

*habitat

For more information, visit The Xerces Society and Pollinator Partnership websites, or read *"100 Plants to Feed the Bees"*, an excellent guidebook from The Xerces Society.