Gardening for Native Pollinators!
Conservation in your Backyard

Backyard conservation that helps native bees and butterflies will have a positive effect on the greater environment.

Garden Features
Gardening Practices
Plant Selection
Garden Features to Attract Butterflies and Pollinators
A Diverse Landscape
Shelter and Basking Spots
A Water Feature

cupplant

tiger swallowtails puddling
Bare Soil & Mud Spots

great golden digger wasp

cicada killer
Natural Mulches
Dead Wood & Brush Piles
Butterfly and Bee Houses
Gardening Practices to Sustain Butterflies and Pollinators
Garden Style

Naturalized

Border garden
Maximize Space

Any spaces not used to full advantage?

• a steep slope
• the boulevard
• the odd space behind the garage
• the narrow space between houses
Smaller Intentional Lawn
Alternative Lawn

Use no or more targeted herbicides
Clover, dandelions, & creeping Charlie are great for bees
Eliminate Chemicals

Herbicides
Insecticides
Garden Clean-up

- Keep some “messy” areas
- Leave dead standing stems
- Don’t disturb habitat from late fall to spring
- Leave some fallen fruit
Selecting Plants for Butterflies and Pollinators
Native or Non-native?

Native

Non-native cultivated

Non-native invasive
Cultivated Flowers

Bloodroot
Don’t Use Invasive species
Native Plant Suppliers

Landscape Alternatives, Scandia
Outback Nursery, Hastings
Prairie Moon Nursery, Winona
Prairie Restorations, Inc., Princeton and Scandia
Naturallywildflowers.com, Minneapolis
Provide Plants for All Life Stages

monarchs mating

monarchs on blazingstar

caterpillar feeding

chrysalis
Functional Guild

Diversity in

• Plant form or habit
• Flower type
• Flower color
• Bloom season
Woody Plants

Deciduous
Evergreen

Tree - Shrub - Vine

Canopy Layer
Sub-canopy Layer
Shrub Layer
Graminoids

Grasses and sedges
Tallgrass or shortgrass
Cool or warm season
**Forbs**

Flower types - Family

Bloom season

Habit
Plant Portfolio
Trees

Aspen, Basswood
Birch, Wild cherry
Oak, Willow
Shrubs

Blackberry
Bush honeysuckle
Dogwood
Elderberry
Gooseberry
New Jersey tea
Rose
Viburnum
Wild plum
Native Grasses

Hairy grama *Bouteloua hirsuta*
Sideoats grama *Bouteloua curtipendula*
Little bluestem *Schizachyrium scoparium*
Prairie dropseed *Sporobolus heterolepis*
Woodland Sedges

Pennsylvania sedge
Carex pensylvanica

Sprengel’s sedge
Carex sprengelii
**Aster Family**

Purple coneflower *Echinacea purpurea*

Sneezeweed *Helenium autumnale*

Sunflower *Helianthus* spp.

Common ox-eye *Heliopsis helianthoides*

Gray-headed coneflower *Ratibida pinnata*

Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia hirta*

Cup-plant *Silphium perfoliatum*
**Aster Family**
Big-leaved aster *Aster macrophyllus*
New England aster *Aster novae-angliae*
Arrow-leaved aster *Aster sagittifolius*
Silky aster *Aster sericeus*
Aster Family
Rough blazing star *Liatris aspera*
Meadow blazing star *Liatris ligulistylis*
Dotted blazing star *Liatris punctata*
Prairie blazing star *Liatris pycnostachya*
Aster Family
Zig-zag goldenrod *Solidago flexicaulis*
Gray goldenrod *Solidago nemoralis*
Stiff goldenrod *Solidago rigida*
Elm-leaved goldenrod *Solidago ulmifolia*
Aster Family
Joe-pye weed *Eupatorium maculatum*
White snakeroot *Eupatorium rugosum*
Ironweed *Vernonia fasciculata*
Milkweed Family
Marsh milkweed *Asclepias incarnata*
Common milkweed *A. syriaca*
Butterflyweed *A. tuberosa*
Whorled milkweed *A. verticillata*
Mint Family
Giant blue hyssop Agastache foeniculum
Wild lavender bergamot Monarda fistulosa
Obedient plant Physostegia virginiana
Virginia mountain mint Pycnanthemum virginianum
Parsley Family
Rattlesnake master *Eryngium yuccifolium*
Golden alexanders *Zizia aurea*

black swallowtail butterfly larvae
**Pea Family**
Lead plant *Amorpha canescens*
Wild white indigo *Baptisia alba*
Purple prairie clover *Dalea purpurea*
White prairie clover *Dalea candida*
Lupine *Lupinus perennis*
Partridge pea *Cassia fasciculata*
Snapdragon Family
Red turtlehead *Chelone obliqua*
White beardtongue *Penstemon digitalis*
Figwort *Scrophularia lanceolata*
Culver’s root *Veronicastrum virginicum*
Gentian Family
Bottle gentian *Gentiana andrewsii*
Cream gentian *Gentiana flavida*
Buttercup Family
Pasque flower Anemone patens
Wood anemone Anemone quinquefolia
Rue anemone Anemonella thalictroides
Columbine Aquilegia canadensis
Marsh marigold Caltha palustris
Sharp-lobed hepatica Hepatica acutiloba
**Geranium Family**
Wild geranium *Geranium maculatum*

**Violet Family**
Bird’s-foot violet *Viola pedata*

**Phlox Family**
Wild blue phlox *Phlox divaricata*
Jacob’s ladder *Polemonium reptans*

**Poppy Family**
Bloodroot *Sanguinaria canadensis*
Your yard can be productive habitat and a connection to green spaces in your community
Vervain Family
Hoary vervain *Verbena stricta*
Blue vervain *Verbena hastata*
**Campanula Family**

Harebell *Campanula rotundifolia*
Cardinal flower *Lobelia cardinalis*
Great blue lobelia *Lobelia siphilitica*