



Cool Season Flowers, Herbs & Pollinator Gardening

Recommended flowers and herbs to plant now:

Flowers:

Alyssum
Ageratum
Calendula
Chamomile
Clarkia
Cornflower (Bachelor's Button)
Dianthus
Hollyhock
Lobelia
Marigold
Nasturtium
Pansies (Violas)
Primrose
Ranunculus
Salvia
Scabiosa
Snapdragon
Statice
Stock
Strawflower
Sweet Pea
Verbena
Yarrow

Herbs:

Cilantro
Dill
Oregano
Parsley
Rue
Sage
Borage
Comfrey
Rosemary
Lavender
Chamomile

For a year-round planting guide, you can download: [Maricopa County Flower Planting Guide](#)

Benefits of gardening with flowers & herbs:

- Both flowers and herbs attract beneficial predatory insects into the garden, such as ladybugs, praying mantis, and lacewings.
Some can even be used as companion plants for trap cropping and enhancing overall health of plants and the flavor of fruit.
- Tall flowers such as sunflowers can be used as a companion to provide shade for crops planted below.
- Make your own cut flower arrangements
- More biodiversity in your garden

Garden Placement:

- Fall & Winter flowers need at least 6 hours of filtered sunlight to bloom.
- Flowers do great in containers if you do not have a lot of space inside your raised bed.
- Amend soil with a nice thick layer of compost. Or, use our raised bed mix if filling containers or beds for the 1st time. Sprinkle worm castings on top of the soil as fertilizer. Top off with a thick layer of mulch to help retain moisture.

Three types of flowers:

- Annuals- live for only one season then die off
- Perennials- regrow every spring year after year and do not need to be replanted
- Biennials- normally takes 2 years to complete its life

Helpful facts:

- Marigolds are the most popular flower used to keep pests like aphids and squash bugs away naturally. The seeds are easy to harvest and store so you shouldn't ever have to buy them again.
- Gaillardia - Native perennial, spreads easily
- Zinnia - Tall, vibrant, heat-loving summer flower but can also be planted in early Fall, annual, easy to collect seeds and replant. Pinch tops to produce more blooms.
- Four O' Clocks - they get their name because they bloom in the late afternoon. When open, they attract pollinators like hummingbirds and butterflies

Watering Your Flower Garden:

- Drip irrigation supplies - <https://www.dripdepot.com/>
- Choose an easy to program, battery operated timer.
- Water every other morning for about 10-15 mins depending on depth of bed
- Keep soil evenly moist, never too dry.