

Pollinators

How do I provide year-round resources and habitats for pollinators? This guide will help you plan an area that will provide flowers, fruits, and protection for pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and other insects.

Attracting pollinators is essential for a healthy garden and ecosystem. By choosing native plants for your pollinator garden, you'll provide the right food and habitat for local species while promoting biodiversity.

How do I protect pollinators?

- Leave empty space if you want a view and near vehicle traffic.
- Avoid pesticides, especially neonicotinoids, which are harmful to pollinators. Use natural alternatives instead.
- Reduce lawn and mow less often.

Where will pollinators go after the summer?

- Avoid cutting back plants. Only cut back plants when needed, or cut only portions back.
- Add bee hotels or logs.
- Leave the leaves! When possible do not rake leaves to help some ground-nesting bees.

How do I provide during the late fall and winter?

- Use winter blooming plants like strawberry tree, manzanitas, and *Mahonia* species.
- Use fall blooming plants like coyote brush.

How do I provide for mason Bees, bumblebees, and other bees?

- Leave the leaves and woody material for fall dormant queens for next year.
- Raising mason bees is low-cost and low-effort—you can set up a bee house and nesting tubes for under \$50 and spend just a few hours per season on care, compared to higher costs and ongoing appointments if hiring a professional pollination service or beekeeper.
- Mason Bees can be can be rented from [Rent Mason Bees](#).

**Go Natives!
Website**

[Xerces Society](#)

[Ley and others.
Selecting Plants for
Pollinators](#)

[Creating Pollinator
Habitats, WA Dept of
Fish and Wildlife](#)

<https://gonativesnursery.com/>

Pollinator Plants



oso-berry

Oemleria cerasiformis

Winter to spring, shrub



Oregon-grape

Mahonia

Winter to spring, many types



willow

Salix

Early spring, tree or shrub



beach strawberry

Fragaria chiloensis

Spring, groundcover



camas

Camassia quamash

Spring-early summer, bulb



Oregon sunshine

Eriophyllum lanatum

Summer, shrubby herb



fireweed

Chamaenerion angustifolium

Summer, vigorous growth



aster

Symphyotrichum

Late summer-fall, herbs



coyote brush

Baccharis pilularis

Late summer-fall, shrub