



**CONSUMER OUTREACH POWERED BY THE PROFESSIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE**

## Pollinator Garden Tips

Creating a Pollinator Garden is a great way to help the local native bee population by providing them with easy-to-find and diverse sources of pollen and nectar. PPMA, NPMA's consumer outreach arm, offers some tips below for creating the perfect Pollinator Garden, along with a list of flowering plants that are especially attractive to bees and other important pollinators.

### **Tips for Pollinator Gardens:**

- Re-plant flowers from pots rather than germinating from seed to ensure that flowers in your Pollinator Garden bloom this summer.
- Choose a variety of flowers and flowering plants that are native to your region as local pollinators are particularly adapted to these. If you are unsure what options are best, consult with a local gardener or nursery.
- Plant a variety of flower colors and shapes to attract different pollinators. Yellow, blue and purple flowers are especially attractive to bees.
- Plant flowers in clusters to make them more easily noticed and accessed by pollinators.
- Consider including some exotic plants in your garden. They are particularly valuable as some can produce a lot of nectar.
- Plant a garden that will offer blooms in different seasons. Again, if you are not sure what choices to make in your community, seek advice from experienced gardeners.
- Consider plants that bloom at night to attract moths and other pollinators active in the evening.
- Avoid hybridized plants that often offer less pollen.
- These gardening choices will welcome pollinators that are passing through your yard on their routine foraging missions.

## Flowers That Attract Pollinators:

The following flowering plants are strong providers of nectar and pollen for pollinators and would be perfect additions to a Pollinator Garden:



**Pale Purple Coneflower**  
(*Echinacea pallida*, perennial):

Native to grasslands in the Eastern U.S. Coneflowers should be planted in well-drained soil.



**Common Yarrow**  
(*Achillea millefolium*, perennial):

Native to North America and Eurasia. Thrives in full sun and dry soil.



**Sunflower**  
(*Helianthus annuus*, annual):

Native to the U.S. Avoid planting in water-logged soil and space sunflowers well apart to allow room for growth.



**Horsemint**  
(*Monarda punctata*, perennial):

Native to most of the U.S. Horsemint performs best if planted in sandy soil with very good drainage.



**Aster**  
(*Symphotrichum* spp., perennial):

The pinks, blues and purples of Asters are attractive to bees. They prefer full sun and moist soil.



**Joe-Pye Weed**  
(*Eutrochium* spp., perennial):

Native across North America. Well-adapted to moist ground.

**Photo credits:** <https://gardendrama.wordpress.com/2010/02/10/classic-coneflowers-are-still-my-favorite/>; [http://www.wildernesswaypoint.com/Field\\_Guide/Plants/Common\\_Yarrow.html](http://www.wildernesswaypoint.com/Field_Guide/Plants/Common_Yarrow.html); <http://www.howtogrowstuff.com/how-to-grow-sunflowers/>; <http://medicinalherbinfo.org/herbs/Horsemint.html>; <http://www.sierraflowerfinder.com/en/d/assorted-asters/4598>; [http://blogs.mcall.com/master\\_gardeners/2014/08/wildflower-of-the-moment-joe-pye-weed.html](http://blogs.mcall.com/master_gardeners/2014/08/wildflower-of-the-moment-joe-pye-weed.html)