

POLLINATOR HABITAT DESIGN: FUNDAMENTALS

Elements of a Healthy Pollinator Habitat:

- ✓ **Nesting Sites**
 - **For ground nesting bees:** bare ground, with sandy/loam soil
 - Wood/cavity nesting bees: abundance of wood (e.g., logs, snags, hollow stems, nesting blocks)
- ✓ **Foraging Habitat**
 - Percentage of “natural” and native vegetation within half mile of site
 - Percentage of plant cover in flowering plants
 - A diverse array of nectar sources across the entire year
- ✓ **Other landscape features:**
 - Water source (preferably in northeast of property)
 - Hedgerows
 - 30 foot wide (by at least 30 feet long) dedicated pollinator habitat
- ✓ **On-Farm management**
 - Reduce use of pesticides (including OMRI listed) whenever possible
 - Reduce tillage wherever possible

The following pollinator resources can be **DOWNLOADED** at:

<http://bit.ly/2sX9XBC>

- The Xerces Society. Habitat Planting for Pollinators (Pacific Islands Area).
- Selecting Plants for Pollinators.
- Gardening and Landscaping Practices for Nesting Native Bees.
- NRCS Pollinator Biology and Habitat Primer.

WEBSITES:

www.xerces.org, The Xerces Society's Pollinator conservation Program offers practical advice on the conservation of pollinator insects.

<http://plants.usda.gov/pollinators/NRCSdocuments.html>, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service list and links to documents for pollinator conservation and enhancement.

<http://dels-old.nas.edu/pollinators/index.shtml>, National Academy of Sciences Resources on Pollinators website, many free and important downloads.

<http://www.wildflower.org/plants>, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center website, great native plant database.

RECOMMENDED READING:

Mader, Eric, Matthew Shepherd, Mace Vaughan, Scott Hoffman Black, and Gretchen LeBuhn, The Xerces Society Guide: Attracting Native Pollinators, Protecting North America's Bees and Butterflies, North Adams, MA: Storey Press, 2011.

Vaughan, Mace, Matthew Shepherd, Claire Kremen, and Scott Hoffman Black, Farming for Bees: Guidelines for Providing Native Bee Habitat on Farms, 2nd edition, Xerces Publications, 2007. (can be downloaded for FREE from the Xerces Publications link at www.xerces.org.)

Holm Heather, Pollinators of Native Plants: Observe and Identify Pollinators and Beneficial Insects with Native Plants., Minnetonka, MN, Pollination Press, 2014.

Tallamy, Douglas, Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants, Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2009.

Buchmann, Stephen L. and Gary Paul Nabhan, The Forgotten Pollinators, Washington, DC: Island Press, 1996.

Committee on the Status of Pollinators in North American and National Research Council, Status of Pollinators in North America, Washington DC, National Academies Press, 2006.

Roth, Sally, Attracting Butterflies & Hummingbirds to Your Backyard, Emmaus, PA: Rodale, 2001.

Zimmerman, Catherine, Urban & Suburban Meadows: Bringing Meadows to Big and Small Spaces, Silver Spring, MD: Matrix Media Press, 2010.