BEDNER'S
FARM & GREENHOUSE

PERENNIALS
ATTRACTING POLLINATORS

A pollinator habitat is an area that includes a variety of flowering plants. These plants provide food and nesting space for pollinators. It can be natural, such as a meadow, or manmade like a pollinator garden.

the basics

- Pollinators include not just spring bees and bumble bees but bees, beetles, butterflies and moths, flies, and birds, especially humming-birds. Any animal such as bats, opossums, ants and wasps that visit flowers for any reason can also be valuable in the pollination process.
- Provide a water source for pollinators to attract them to your garden. This can be a shallow pool or even your bird bath! Be mindful of pesticides and herbicides as this can push back all work you have done. Improper use of pesticides, destruction of habitats, and even invasion of non-native plant species can dangerously impact our native pollinators.
- Give your fall clean up a break! Dead leaves and stems are a place for native bees and other pollinators to nest over the winter. There are bees that nest underground, but there are others that nest in wood, and in hollow stems of plants. There are butterflies and beetles that overwinter in the leafy debris of fall.
- A pollinator garden should contain plants that provide pollen and nectar all year round. No one plant blooms the entire season, so that means choosing some plants that bloom in spring, some that bloom in summer, and others that flower in the fall.

keys to PLANTING A POLLINATOR GARDEN:

- **Abundance** – plant in clumps or drifts
- **Diversity** – plant flowers with different shapes, colors and scents
- **Sequence** – plant for bloom succession, not all at once
- **Local** – whenever possible, choose local plant species native to your region
- **Host Plants** – Certain plants are hosts for species of pollinators where they go through their entire life cycle

ATTRACTING POLLINATORS *perennials*

Achillea millefolium **Yarrow**

Agastache foeniculum **Anise Hyssop**

Ajuga reptans **Bugleweed**

Aquilegia canadensis **Columbine**

Andropogon gerardii **Big Bluestem**

Asclepias incarnata **Swamp Milkweed**

Asclepias tuberosa **Butterfly Weed**

Aster oblongifolius **Aromatic Aster**

Baptisia australis **Blue Wild Indigo**

Gaillardia spp **Blanketflower**

Carex spp. **Carex**

Centranthus rubra **Red Valerian**

Chelone glabra **White Turtlehead**

Coreopsis **Tickseed**

Dianthus barbatus **Sweet William Dianthus**

Digitalis purpurea **Foxglove**

Echinacea purpurea **Purple Coneflower**

Eutrochium dubium, purpureum, & fistulosum **Joe Pye Weed**

Eryngium yuccifolium **Rattlesnake Master**

Geranium spp. **Hardy Geranium**

Helenium autumnale **Sneezeweed**

Liatris spicata **Marsh Blazing Star**

Lobelia cardinalis **Cardinal Flower**

Lonicera sempervirens **Trumpet Honeysuckle Vine**

Lupinus perennis **Lupine**

Lysimachia lanceolata **Lanceleaf Loosestrife**

Monarda didyma **Scarlet Beebalm**

Nepeta x faassenii **Catmint**

Panicum virgatum **Switch Grass**

Penstemon spp. **Beardtongue**

Perovskia atripliciflia **Russian Sage**

Phlox spp **Garden, Moss, Woodland Phlox**

Pycnanthemum muticum **Mountain Mint**

Rudbeckia spp. **Black-eyed Susan**

Salvia spp. **Sage**

Schizachyrium scoparium **Little bluestem**

Solidago spp. **Goldenrod**

Spigelia marilandica **Indian Pink**

Sorghastrum nutans **Indian Grass**

Symphyotrichum spp. **Aster** (A/P)

Tiarella cordifolia **Foamflower**

Vernonia noveboracensis **Ironweed**

Veronicastrum virginicum **Culver's Root**