

What is a Pollinator Garden?

- A pollinator garden is designed to provide food, forage, and habitat for local pollinators
- Native plants and native pollinators have coevolved together. This means that some pollinators can only utilize specific plants (for example, monarch butterflies only use milkweed as habitat), so it is very important to provide habitat for these specialists.
- This garden supports both pollinators and the surrounding ecosystem by providing habitat for pollinating insects. These insects provide food for local wildlife (especially birds) and spread pollen for plants so they can reproduce. This pollinator garden has 10 species of plants including:

- NY Ironweed
- Blue Wild Indigo
- Sneezeweed
- Bergamot
- Blazing Star
- Smooth White Beardtongue
- New England Aster
- Boneset
- Anise Hyssop
- Purple Coneflower



Bergamot



Blazing Star



Anise Hyssop

Who are Vermont's Pollinators?

*the following pollinators are only a few of Vermont's thousands of native species of pollinators



Eastern Carpenter Bee



Monarch Butterfly



Half-Black Bumblebee



Sculptured Resin Bee

Why are Pollinator Gardens Important?

- Pollinators, especially bees, are essential to the success of our ecosystems and food systems. Bees are responsible for the reproduction of billions of dollars-worth of agricultural crops within the United States.
- Bee populations everywhere are in a state of decline, and pollinators native to Vermont have been hit especially hard due to habitat loss and pesticide use.
- Honeybees are not native to North America! While it is important to support honeybees, it is even more critical to focus on supporting the native bee populations in VT.

Want to plant your own pollinator garden? Follow this link for a step-by-step guide:

<https://www.northeastpollinator.com/pages/planting-for-pollinators>