Pollinator Gardening

- Beautify your yard
- Create valuable habitat
- Support diverse plant life in our city

Monarch Butterfly on Ironweed

Any animal or insect that visits a flower can transfer pollen from one flower to another.

Pipevine Swallowtail on Indian Hemp

Pollinators

- Butterflies
- Bees
- Moths
- Bats
- Beetles
- Flies
- And more!

Even the wind is a pollinator!

Bumblebee on Compass Plant

Benefits of Native Plants

- Attract pollinators needed to grow fruit and vegetables
- Thrive without pesticides
- Require little water
- Improve air quality

Monarch Butterfly on Milkweed

Benefits of Native Plants

- Reduce stormwater runoff
- Provide shelter and food for wildlife
- Increase the District's biodiversity
- Add beauty to your home

When to Plant?

- Seeds in the fall
- Young plants in the spring

Recommended Pollinator Plants

Flowers

Swamp Milkweed

(*Asclepias incarnata*)

Yellow Wild

(*Baptisia tinctoria*)

Partridge

(*Chamaecrista fasciculata*)

Showy Tick
(*Desmodium canadense*)

Three-nerved Joe-Pye Weed

(*Eupatorium dubium*)

Common Boneset

(*Eupatorium dubium*)

Purple node Joe-Pye Weed

(*Eupatorium purpureum*)

Coneflower

(*Echinacea purpurea*)

Giant Sunflower

(*Helianthus giganteus*)

Ox-eye Sunflower

(*Heliopsis helianthoides*)

Round-headed Bush-Clover

(*Lespedeza capitata*)

Dense Blazing-star

(*Liatris spicata*)

Shaggy Blazing-star

(*Liatris graminifolia*)

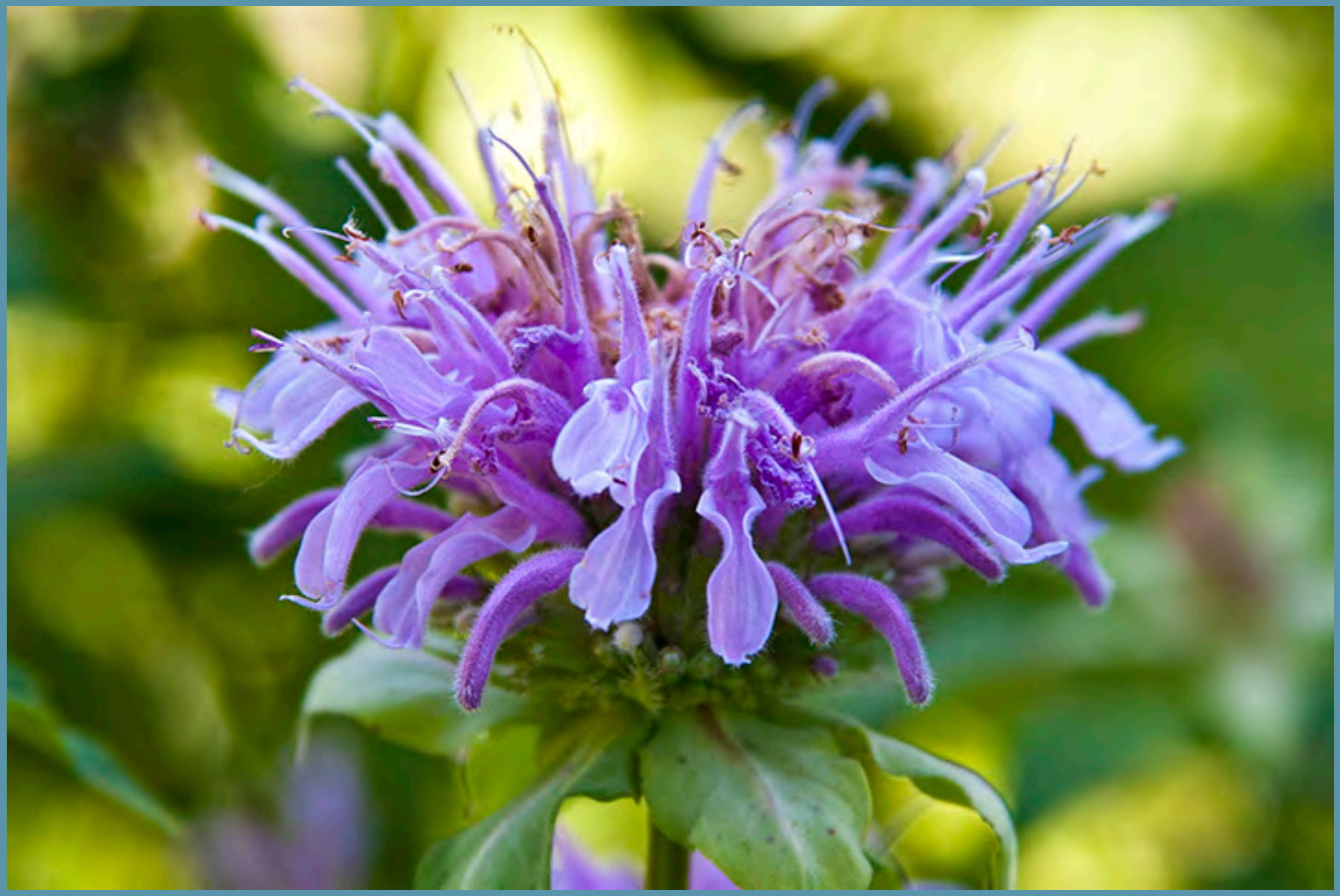
Great Blue
(*Lobelia siphilitica*)

Wild Blue

(*Lupinus perennis*)

Wild Bergamot “Bee Balm”

(*Monarda fistulosa*)



Spotted Horsemint “Bee Balm”

(*Monarda punctata*)

Beardtongue
(*Penstemon digitalis*)

Big-leaf Mountain Mint

(*Pycnanthemum muticum*)

Common Mountain Mint

(*Pycnanthemum virginianum*)

Black-Eyed Susan

(*Rudbeckia hirta*)

Canada Goldenrod

(*Solidago canadensis*)

Early Goldenrod

(*Solidago juncea*)

New England Aster

(*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)

Hairy Heath Aster

(*Symphyotrichum pilosum*)

Spiderwort

(*Tradescantia virginiana*)

Blue Vervain
(*Verbena hastata*)

New York Ironweed

(*Vernonia noveboracensis*)

Golden Alexanders

(*Zizia aurea*)

Big Bluestem
(*Andropogon gerardii*)

Switch Grass
(*Panicum virgatum*)

Indian Grass

(*Sorghastrum nutans*)

Eastern Gamagrass

(*Tripsacum dactyloides*)

Canada Wild-rye

(*Elymus canadensis*)

Virginia Wild-rye
(*Elymus virginicus*)

Trees & Shrubs

Red Maple

(*Acer rubrum*)

Black Cherry

(*Prunus serotina*)

Serviceberry
(*Amelanchier laevis*)

Buttonbush

(*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

Winterberry
(*Ilex verticillata*)

Pawpaw
(*Asimina triloba*)

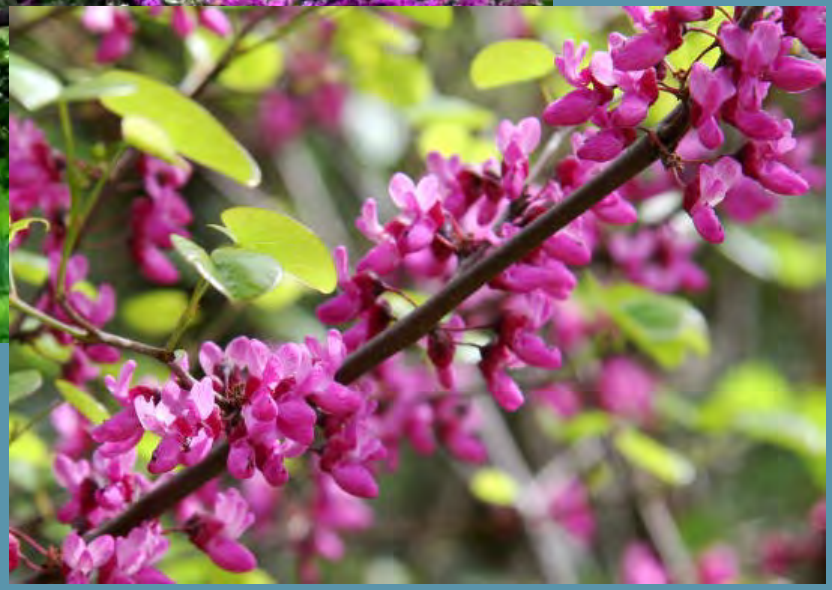
Virginia Sweetspire

(*Itea virginica*)

Flowering Dogwood
(*Cornus florida*)

Silky Dogwood
(*Cornus amomum*)

Redbud
(*Cercis Canadensis*)



Mountain Laurel
(*Kalima latifolia*)

Witchhazel

(*Hamamelis virginiana*)

Spicebush
(*Linder benzoin*)

Arrowwood Viburnum

(*Viburnum dentatum*)

Blackhaw Viburnum

(*Viburnum prunifolium*)

Highbush Blueberry
(*Vaccinium corymbosum*)

Pollinator Gardens

Even a small
backyard garden of
native plants
can support pollinators.

121
122

Vendors for Native Pollinator Plants

- American Native Plants (Perry Hall, MD)
- Behnke Nurseries (Beltsville, MD)
- Earth Sangha (Fairfax, VA)
- Ginkgo Gardens (Capitol Hill, DC)
- Nature by Design (Alexandria, VA)
- Sylva Native Nursery and Seed Co. (York, PA)

Learn More

doee.dc.gov/pollinate

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA