

CREATING POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY GARDENS WITH NATIVE PLANTS: LOCALLY-AVAILABLE OPTIONS

Interesting in improving pollinator resources on your property? The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources has created this list of native plant species that are commonly available at local nurseries. The list includes basic information about flower color, light and soil moisture requirements, so that you can easily identify the species best suited to your landscape.

Tips:

- Choose a suite of species that provide pollinator resources in spring, summer, and fall
- Support the greatest diversity of pollinator insects by selecting a variety of flower colors, shapes, and sizes. Ask your local nursery or landscaper for help if you're not sure
- Place plants in sweeps (several of the same species) rather than individually; that makes it easier for pollinators to find the plants they prefer
- Consult with your local nursery or landscaper for assistance deciding which plants will work best for your property
- If you are looking for true native species, stick with the plants that have a checkmark in the "Native to New England" column

PERENNIALS

Name	Flower Color	Light	Moisture	Flowering Time	Native to New England	Native to Northeast
Allegheny spurge (<i>Pachysandra procumbens</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
bloodroot (<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>)	white, pink	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
Canada wild ginger (<i>Asarum canadense</i>)	brown	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
golden star (<i>Chrysogonum virginianum</i>)	yellow	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring		✓
marsh marigold (<i>Caltha palustris</i>)	yellow	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
moss pink (<i>Phlox subulata</i>)	white, blue, pink, red	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring		✓
red columbine (<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>)	red, yellow, pink	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
wild blue phlox (<i>Phlox divaricata</i>)	pink, lavender	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
creeping phlox (<i>Phlox stolonifera</i>)	purple, blue, pink	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring, summer		✓
Culver's root (<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring, summer	✓	✓
Eastern bluestar (<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>)	blue/purple	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring, summer	✓	✓
foam flower (<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>)	white, pink	☀️ ☀️	💧	spring, summer	✓	✓
sundrops (<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i>)	yellow	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring, summer	✓	✓
black cohosh (<i>Actaea racemosa</i>)	white, light pink	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring, summer, fall	✓	✓
fringed bleeding-heart (<i>Dicentra eximia</i>)	pink to red	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring, summer, fall		✓

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PERENNIALS, CONT.

Name	Flower Color	Light	Moisture	Flowering Time	Native to New England	Native to Northeast
bee balm (<i>Monarda didyma</i>)	violet, red, pink	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer		✓
big blue Lobelia (<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>)	blue	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
blue wild indigo (<i>Baptisia australis</i>)	blue	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
butterfly weed (<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>)	orange	☀️	💧	summer	✓	✓
cardinal flower (<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>)	red	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
dwarf crested iris (<i>Iris cristata</i>)	blue, white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer		✓
fall phlox (<i>Phlox paniculata</i>)	pink/white, blue, etc.	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
foxglove beardtounge (<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>)	pink, purple, white, red	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
Joe pye weed (<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>)	lavender/pink	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
New York ironweed (<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>)	purple	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
northern blue flag iris (<i>Iris versicolor</i>)	purple	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
obedient plant (<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧	summer	✓	✓
swamp milkweed (<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>)	pink	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
turtlehead (<i>Chelone lyonii</i>)	pink	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
wrinkle-leaved goldenrod (<i>Solidago rugosa</i>)	yellow	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
blazing star (<i>Liatriis spicata</i>)	purple, white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer, fall	✓	✓
Bolton's aster (<i>Boltonia asteroides</i>)	white, lavender, pink	☀️ ☀️	💧	summer, fall	✓	✓
false sunflower (<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>)	yellow	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer, fall	✓	✓
thread-leaved tickseed (<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>)	yellow, pink	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer, fall		✓
New England aster (<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>)	pink, purple	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	fall	✓	✓
smooth aster (<i>Aster laevis</i>)	purple	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	fall	✓	✓
white snakeroot (<i>Ageratina altissima</i> var. <i>altissima</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	fall	✓	✓


























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SHRUBS

































































Name	Flower Color	Light	Moisture	Flowering Time	Native to New England	Native to Northeast
American cranberry (<i>Vaccinium macrocarpon</i>)	white, pinkish	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
arrowwood Viburnum (<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
beach plum (<i>Prunus maritima</i>)	white	☀️	💧	spring	✓	✓
bearberry (<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>)	white	☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
clammy azalea (<i>Rhododendron viscosum</i>)	white, pink	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
fragrant sumac (<i>Rhus aromatica</i>)	greenish yellow	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
gray twig dogwood (<i>Cornus racemosa</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
highbush blueberry (<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>)	white, pinkish	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
lowbush blueberry (<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>)	white, pinkish	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
red chokeberry (<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
red twig dogwood (<i>Cornus sericea</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
Rhodora (<i>Rhododendron canadense</i>)	purple, white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
silky dogwood (<i>Cornus amomum</i>)	yellowish white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
spicebush (<i>Lindera benzoin</i>)	greenish yellow	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
sweet azalea (<i>Rhododendron arborescens</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring		✓
sweetfern (<i>Comptonia peregrina</i>)	yellowish-green	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	spring	✓	✓
American cranberry bush (<i>Viburnum opulus</i> var. <i>americanum</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
American hydrangea (<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer		✓
American wintergreen (<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>)	white with pink tinge	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
buttonbush (<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
inkberry (<i>Ilex glabra</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
mountain laurel (<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>)	pinkish white	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
ninebark (<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>)	white	☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓
rosebay rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>)	white, pink, purple	☀️ ☀️ ☀️	💧 💧 💧 💧	summer	✓	✓

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SHRUBS, CONT.

Name	Flower Color	Light	Moisture	Flowering Time	Native to New England	Native to Northeast
shrubby cinquefoil (<i>Dasiphora floribunda</i>)	yellow	 	 	summer	✓	✓
sweet pepperbush (<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>)	white, pink	  	  	summer	✓	✓
Virginia sweetspire (<i>Itea virginica</i>)	white	  	  	summer		✓
winged sumac (<i>Rhus copallinum</i>)	green	 	 	summer	✓	✓
winterberry (<i>Ilex verticillata</i>)	white	 	  	summer	✓	✓

TREES

Name	Flower Color	Light	Moisture	Flowering Time	Native to New England	Native to Northeast
Allegheny serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>)	white	 	 	spring	✓	✓
American hornbeam (<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> ssp. <i>virginiana</i>)	greenish, reddish-green	  	  	spring	✓	✓
Canadian serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>)	white	 	  	spring	✓	✓
Eastern redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>)	pink	 	 	spring	✓	✓
flowering dogwood (<i>Cornus florida</i>)	white	 	 	spring	✓	✓
paper birch (<i>Betula papyrifera</i>)	brown, green		 	spring	✓	✓
red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>)	red	 	  	spring	✓	✓
sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>)	red, green	 	 	spring	✓	✓
sweetbay magnolia (<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>)	white	 	  	spring	✓	✓
tulip tree (<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>)	yellow	 	 	spring	✓	✓
black gum (<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>)	greenish-white	 	  	spring, summer	✓	✓
sourwood (<i>Oxydendrum aboreum</i>)	white	  	 	summer		✓
staghorn sumac (<i>Rhus typhina</i>)	greenish yellow	 	 	summer	✓	✓
witchhazel (<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>)	yellow	  	  	fall	✓	✓

CREATING POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY GARDENS WITH NATIVE PLANTS: LOCALLY-AVAILABLE OPTIONS

GRASSES/RUSHES/SEDGES (provide habitat for pollinators)

Name	Flower Color	Light	Moisture	Flowering Time	Native to New England	Native to Northeast
Pennsylvania sedge (<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>)	green			spring, summer	✓	✓
purple love grass (<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>)	reddish purple			summer	✓	✓
switch grass (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>)	pinkish			summer, fall, winter	✓	✓

KEY

Light

full sun part shade shade

Soil Moisture

dry average moist wet