

# POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY HABITAT FOR EVERY SEASON

## Plant native plants

Native plants attract more and more diverse pollinators! Some pollinators only visit one species. But plants that support specialists support generalist insects too!

- **Caterpillars are good.** You need host plants for caterpillars to get butterflies and moths!
- Have at least three flowering plants at all times.
- Include early spring and late fall flowers.
- Fall is a great time to plant dormant trees, shrubs, and native flowering plants.

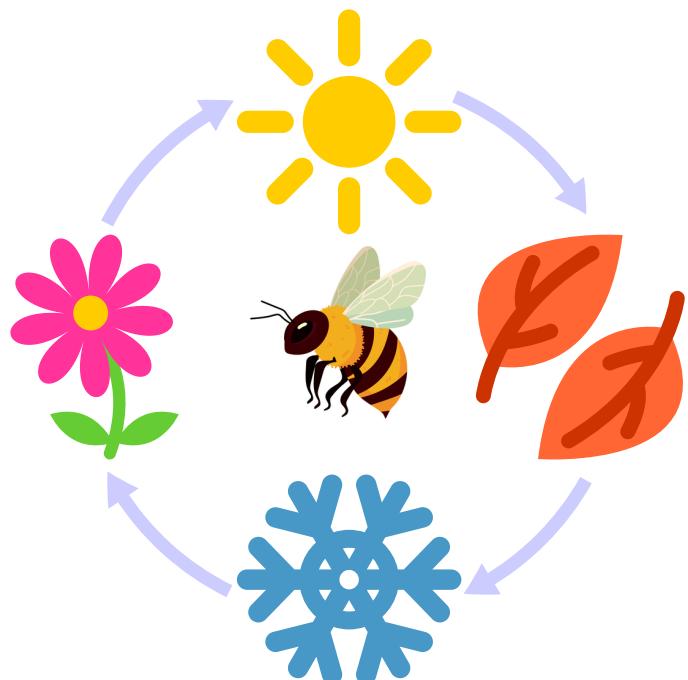
## Get Rid of That Grass

- Reduce your lawn area—less is more!
- Mow less often.
- Try mow-friendly native plants, like Bluets, violets, and wild strawberry.
- Eliminate or reduce pesticide use.
- Buy from local nurseries and farms that don't use pesticides.

## Cultivate Year-Round Habitat

Pollinators need more than food — they also need shelter and nests for their offspring.

- **Leave the leaves!** Leaf litter and soft landings under trees complete the full life cycle of insects by creating pupation and overwintering habitat.
- **Bare ground is okay.** 70% of VT bees nest in naturally-occurring bare ground.
- **Don't buy mulch.** Heavy wood mulch inhibits nesting for bees. Try dried leaves and grasses instead.
- **Don't cut back your stems.** Some insects use stems in the fall and winter.



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# The Best Native Plants

For Butterflies and Moths

## Trees & Shrubs

- Willows (*Salix*)
- Cherries (*Prunus*)
- Oaks (*Quercus*)
- Birches (*Betula*)
- Aspens (*Populus*)
- Blueberries (*Vaccinium*)

For Specialist Bees

## Flowering Plants

- Goldenrods (*Solidago*)
- Sunflowers (*Helianthus*)
- Asters (*Symphyotrichum*)
- Black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia*)
- Willows (*Salix*)
- Blueberries (*Vaccinium*)

## Perennials

- Goldenrods (*Solidago*)
- Clovers (*Trifolium*)
- Meadowsweet (*Spiraea*)
- Strawberry (*Fragaria*)
- Asters (*Symphyotrichum*)
- Sunflowers (*Helianthus*)

Visit [xerces.org](http://xerces.org) for more pollinator-friendly plants for your area!

## Help us research pollinators!

**250k+ observations in the Northeast US and counting!**  
**Scan this QR code with your phone's camera app to learn more.**



[inaturalist.org/projects/pollinator-interactions-on-plants-pip-of-the-ne-us](http://inaturalist.org/projects/pollinator-interactions-on-plants-pip-of-the-ne-us)

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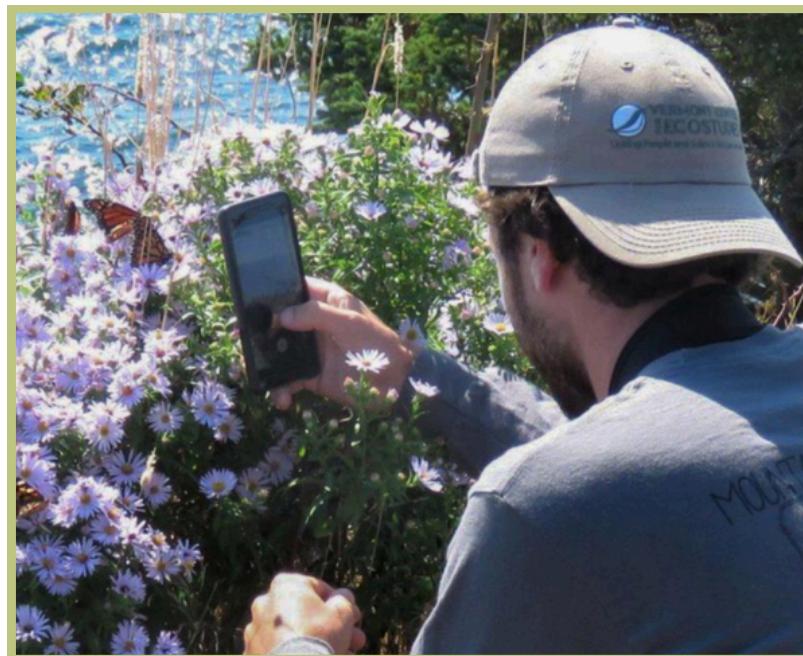


**iNaturalist**



## **PIP Project** **(Pollinator Interactions on Plants)**

1. Download the **iNaturalist Classic** app or visit [inaturalist.org](https://inaturalist.org) and sign up.
2. Search for the **Pollinator Interactions on Plants** project and join.
3. Take pictures of pollinators visiting your flowers.
4. Upload to iNaturalist and select the PIP project.
5. Under *Interaction->Visited flower* of put the flower that the insect is visiting. If you don't know, that's okay.
6. Select the insect for the observation. It will suggest an insect species, genus, or family. If you're not sure, that's okay! An expert will check.
7. Click **SHARE**.



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