A Season for Pollinators



Plan a season of blooms

Aim for overlapping flowering times, from your first blooms to your last. Choose locally native plants suited to your light, soil and space, with a variety of flower shapes.

A closer look at five flower visitors

Native bumblebees
Some buzz flowers to release pollen.

Hawk moths
Hover to sip nectar; some fly by day.

Hoverflies
Flies that carry pollen between flowers.

Flower beetles
Look among open blossoms.

Ants: the occasional pollinators
Ant pollination occurs in some plant relationships. Many ants visit flowers for nectar without effectively transferring pollen between plants.

Also notice solitary bees, butterflies, other moths and wasps. Hummingbirds pollinate where present; some bats do so in warmer regions.

EARLY	MIDDLE	LATE
First flowering weeks	Peak flowering weeks	Last flowering weeks
Dates: _____	Dates: _____	Dates: _____
Plants to include:	Plants to include:	Plants to include:
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

My garden or growing space: _____

Check local bloom timing and site needs. Artwork is decorative, not a planting or identification guide.

My Pollinator Bloom Calendar

Label the columns with months or weeks in your local growing season. Shade when each plant flowers. Record visitor codes in the last column; put uncertain visitors under O.



Place: _____ Year: _____

TIME PERIODS / Label the blank columns before you begin

Plant name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	**Visitors** (codes)

VISITOR KEY

S Solitary bee B Native bumblebee F Butterfly
M Moth / hawk moth Y Fly / hoverfly C Beetle
W Wasp A Ant H Hummingbird T Pollinating bat
O Other / unknown Use locally occurring groups.

A closer look

Date / time	**Plant in flower**	**Visitor / count**	**Weather / notes**

A visit is not proof of pollination; weather and watching time matter.

Notice the Gaps

Review your calendar for weeks with few blooms. Revisit at different times of day, including dusk when practical, and give unfamiliar flower visitors a closer look.

1. My quiet stretch

Dates / weeks: _____

What is flowering? What have I noticed?

_____

2. A plant to research for this gap

Plant: _____ Expected bloom: _____

Local source / light, soil and space needs:

_____

3. My next small step

_____ By: _____

BEYOND BLOOMS

- ☐ Look up local host plants
- ☐ Keep suitable nesting habitat
- ☐ Avoid pesticide exposure
- ☐ Observe again another day

Leave room for winter shelter

In fall, leave leaves, standing stems and natural plant debris in garden beds and sheltered areas. Many pollinators spend winter in or beneath this habitat.

In spring, delay cleanup until later in your local season, after sustained warming. One warm day is not a reliable signal. Keep some habitat undisturbed year-round.

Further reading: Groups Plants Hawk moths Ants Fall habitat Spring cleanup

Thank you for making room
for what matters.