# INVITING POLLINATORS TO YOUR GARDEN

Pollinators include bees, flies, wasps, beetles, hummingbirds, butterflies, moths, and others. Planting pollinator habitat attracts these animals that in turn support biological diversity, including food for wildlife and humans alike

### Pollinator-Friendly Gardens

- Produce pollen and nectar throughout the growing season
- Provide nesting habitat, such as wood cavities and bare soil
- ✓ Maintain and/or enhance existing natural areas
- ✓ Avoid pesticide-treated plants
- Include mainly native plants

#### Did You Know?

There are more than **450 native bee species** in British Columbia!

Native bees are vital in the pollination of native plant species as well as many common food crops like blueberries, squash, cucumbers, and apples



Great Camas has easily accessible pollen that is very attractive to pollinators

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Mason Bee collecting pollen from Sea Blush

### **Pollinator-Friendly Plants**

- ✓ Native plants have co-evolved with pollinators for millennia and are an essential component of healthy pollinator diversity
- Plant a diversity of native plants to create a succession of bloom times (early spring is especially important)
- ✓ Visible pollen will be more attractive to some pollinators ("easy access")
- ✓ Plant in large patches (at least 1 m<sup>2</sup>)



Large diverse patches of native wildflowers support pollinators.

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# WILDFLOWERS OF THE VICTORIA AREA

All wildflowers have some relationship with local pollinators as they have co-evolved together and thus shaped one another's very existence. The list below is a selection of plants that attract an abundance of pollinators.

Broad-leaved Shootingstar Canada Goldenrod Common Camas Common Snowberry Cow Parsnip Douglas' Aster Farewell-to-Spring Fool's Onion Great Camas Gumweed Mountain Sneezeweed Nodding Onion Pearly Everlasting Sea Blush Spring Gold Tall Oregon-grape Woolly Sunflower Yarrow



A Bee Fly travels from flower-to-flower with pollen gathered on its legs



A number of pollinator plants are also **deer-resistant**. Clockwise: Entire-leaved Gumweed, Broad-leaved Shootingstar, Coastal Sage, Pearly Everlasting, Woolly Sunflower, Sea Blush, Yarrow

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## HUMMINGBIRDS

Hummingbirds are the primary birds that play a role in pollination.

Bright colored tubular flowers attract hummingbirds.

Anna's Hummingbird is the most common species in Victoria. Look for Rufous Hummingbird in spring and summer months. Males arrive in March, coinciding with the blooms of Redflowering Currant and Salmonberry.

#### Examples:

- Black Twinberry
- Hairy Honeysuckle
- Hedge-Nettle
- Nodding Onion
- Nootka Rose
- Orange Honeysuckle
- Red Columbine
- Red-flowering Currant
- Salmonberry
- Snowberry

