



Watersheds  
CANADA

# WILDFLOWER GARDEN GUIDE



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# What is a Wildflower Pollinator Garden?

A wildflower garden is a visually spectacular, self-maintaining, low cost garden that truly brings the beauty of nature to your backyard. Native wildflower species are easier, cheaper, and more ecologically beneficial than using non-native wildflower plants.

Being native, wildflower species are well adapted to the local conditions and climate so they are often hardier and easy to maintain. They also reproduce on their own, are more resistant to diseases, do not require fertilization, are easy to propagate, share, and are a low cost alternative to ornamental non-natives. Most importantly, native wildflowers attract and protect native pollinator species.

Pollinator species, including bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds play a critical role in natural ecosystems and in human food production. It is estimated that these pollinators, particularly bees, are essential for 15-30% of food production (Kremen et al, 2002).