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Tips and Tricks for an Amazing Pollinator Garden

A pollinator garden is designed to attract and support pollinators such as bees, butterflies, birds, hummingbirds, beetles, bats, moths, flies, wasps, and even ants. Here's a comprehensive overview of what you need to know about creating and maintaining a pollinator garden, including the use of organic herbicides and pesticides.

1. Choosing the Right Plants



Native Plants: Select native flowering plants that are well-adapted to your local climate and soil. They provide the best resources for local pollinators.

Diversity: Include a variety of plants that bloom at different times throughout the growing season to provide a continuous food source for pollinators to rely upon.

Color and Shape: Pollinators are attracted to different colors and shapes. For example, bees are drawn to purple and yellow flowers, while butterflies prefer bright red colors.

2. Garden Design



Layout: Create clusters of the same plant species to make it easier for pollinators to find food. At ClimateScaping we design 'bouquets' of flowers for this purpose.

Sunlight: Ensure your garden receives plenty of sunlight, as most flowering plants thrive in full sun.

Water Source: Include a shallow water source, such as a birdbath with stones for landing, to provide hydration for pollinators. They get thirsty too.

3. Organic Herbicides and Pesticides



Herbicides: If you need to control weeds, consider using organic herbicides made from natural ingredients. Always apply them carefully to avoid harming beneficial plants and insects. Mindfulness around this practice goes a long way, not just for our pollinators, but also for pets and wildlife who can consume these chemicals.

Pesticides: Use organic pesticides derived from natural sources just the same, such as neem oil or insecticidal soap. These are less harmful than chemicals. Encourage beneficial

insects that prey on pests (did you know that ladybugs eat aphids), and use organic pesticide treatments only when necessary.

4. Maintenance



Watering: Regularly water your garden, especially during dry spells, to keep plants healthy and blooming. Remember that even drought-tolerant plants need water.

Mulching: Use organic mulch to suppress weeds, retain moisture, and improve soil health.

Pruning: Deadhead spent flowers to encourage more blooms and maintain the overall health of the plants throughout the growing season. Then leave them be going into the winter to provide winter aesthetics and food for pollinators.

5. Avoiding Harmful Practices



Chemical Use: Avoid using synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides, as they can harm pollinators and disrupt the entire ecosystem around us.

Monoculture: Steer clear of planting large areas with a single species, as this limits food sources for pollinators.

6. Creating Habitat



Nesting Sites: Provide habitats for pollinators by leaving some areas of your garden undisturbed, or by adding “bee hotels” and native plant stems for nesting.

Overwintering: Leave some plant stems and leaves in place during winter to provide shelter for overwintering pollinators.

7. Community Involvement



Education: Share knowledge about pollinator gardens with your community to encourage more people to create similar spaces.

Collaboration: Work with local gardening clubs or environmental organizations to promote pollinator-friendly practices and then share what you’ve learned.

We love pollinators!
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