

Native Plants with Focus on Pollinators Resources

How do I choose plants that will work in my location?

Several organizations and agencies have great overall sites that cover selecting plants, planting hints, and much more:

- [Metro Blooms](#) and [Blue Thumb](#) (See "Plant Finder" on the [Resources page](#).)
- MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) [Pollinator and Biodiversity Toolbox](#)
 - ✓ ["Creating Residential Pollinator Habitat" page](#) for garden templates for different light/moisture conditions and more.
 - ✓ [Planting for Pollinators: Principles and Design for Residential Pollinator Habitat](#) (41 pages)
 - ✓ Pollinator garden templates for native plant pollinator gardens
 - [Shady Garden \(2 pages\)](#)
 - [Rain Garden \(2 pages\)](#)
 - [Sunny and Low \(Boulevard\) Garden \(2 pages\)](#)
- [DNR Natural shorelines webpage](#) (has links to many resources)
- [DNR Minnesota's Pollinators](#) webpage includes the "How you can help pollinators" section and a "Pollinator-friendly Planting Resources" expandable section.
- University of Minnesota and University of Minnesota Extension
 - ✓ [Native Plants page](#)
 - ✓ [Plant for bees and other pollinators page](#)
- [Minnesota Wildflowers – A Field Guide to the Flora of Minnesota](#) website (shows scientific names and whether native)

If you are on a shoreline, a couple newer resources:

- [Planting Perennials on Your Shoreline](#) – 2-page flyer with plant list
- [Planting Trees and Shrubs on Your Shoreline](#) – 2-page flyer with plant list

Where can I get native plants/seeds?

- Check with nurseries and garden stores in your area for native pollinator seed mixes and plants
- [DNR Native plant suppliers, landscapers, and restoration consultants for Minnesota webpage](#)

How about pollinator-friendly lawns?

- [University of Minnesota Bee Lawn website](#)
- [BWSR Lawns to Legumes; Your Yard Can BEE the Change website](#)

Minnesota laws and Sample Local Ordinances

- [Examples of Native Landscape Ordinances from Minnesota Cities](#)
- [Minnesota Statute 412.925](#) adopted 2024 about allowing native landscapes

How do I get more guidance?

Check with your city, county and/or watershed district. Many communities, county Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and watershed organizations have free trainings, staff who can visit your site and give guidance, and some even have cost-share grants to do native gardens or "rain gardens." Many also have great newsletters, and you can subscribe to your county SWCD or watershed's newsletter to see helpful announcements and updates.

Are you within a Watershed District?

Many watershed districts have grants and can provide assistance. Check out your watershed's website.

- [Minnesota Watersheds](#) - see state map of watersheds, and find links to watershed districts (at About, then Members).
- [Twin Cities Metro Area Watersheds interactive map](#) (Met Council)

Other resources (from communities, SWCDs and Watersheds)

Brochures

- Anoka Conservation District - [Backyard Habitat: Attracting Wildlife to Your Property](#) (2 pages)

Videos

- Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) - [Habitat at Home: Late Summer and Fall Native Plantings](#) page with some helpful fall planting guidelines; [Fall Planting Basics video](#); [How to Plant a Pollinator Lawn | Easy Bee Lawns for Urban Yards video](#)
- Washington Conservation District – [Gardening with Native Plants \(series of short videos\)](#)

Google drive page of Anoka CD (to check) -

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1fe9slAivO4f0K15d1WHxK06sr8G4-Tem>

Websites

- [Washington Conservation District - Plant for Clean Water page](#)