



DESCHUTES  
**LAND**  
TRUST



**GROW YOUR OWN POLLINATOR GARDEN**

**HELP MONARCHS AND  
OTHER POLLINATORS THRIVE**

# GROW YOUR OWN POLLINATOR GARDEN

Monarch butterflies and other native pollinators like bees, bats, and moths play important roles in the natural world. Some pollinators—like the monarch butterfly—are struggling to thrive here in Central Oregon. The good news is you can help by planting your own pollinator garden!

## 1. Plant milkweed to help the monarch butterfly!

Western monarch butterflies are native to Central Oregon, but their populations are in serious decline. One of the best ways to help monarchs is to plant native milkweed! We have two kinds of native milkweed in Central Oregon: showy milkweed and narrowleaf milkweed. Monarch butterflies lay their eggs on milkweed only. Planting 3-6 milkweed plants (preferably a combination of showy and narrowleaf) helps provide egg laying space and food for newly emerged caterpillars.

### Our native milkweed varieties:



DARLENE ASHLEY

#### **Showy milkweed** (*Asclepias speciosa*):

This native milkweed has showy rose-purple flowers in late summer. Leaves are widely oblong with the plant growing 18-36in tall. This milkweed likes sun and medium water. It grows via rhizomes, so be careful because it will spread!

**BLOOMS: SUMMER**



THOMAS LANDIS

#### **Narrowleaf milkweed** (*Asclepias fascicularis*):

Our other native milkweed has narrow leaves like its name suggests. It grows 12-36in tall and has white to lavender colored flowers. Plant it in full sun and well-drained soil. It is drought tolerant and also spreads via rhizomes.

**BLOOMS: SUMMER-FALL**

## 2. Plant native pollinator-friendly blooms!

As you build your pollinator garden you'll want to include other native plants with flowers. Pollinators like bees and butterflies sip nectar from these plants and then go and help pollinate other plants like the food we eat! Choose a variety of blooms that stretch from early spring through fall and use only native plants that haven't been treated with neonicotinoids (often found on nursery plants and extremely harmful to pollinators).

### Here are nine (in order of bloom time) to get you started:

#### **Wax currant** (*Ribes cereum*):

A native shrub that grows up to 6ft tall, wax currant has white/pale pink flowers that hang in clusters at the tips of branches. It attracts a large number of native bees as well as hummingbirds. Needs full sun in dry to moist well-drained soil.

**BLOOMS: SPRING**



KRIS KRISTOVICH

#### **Munro's globemallow** (*Sphaeralcea munroana*):

This showy native has beautiful orange blooms. Grows 8-32in tall and will do well in dry soils. Globemallow attracts many species of bees including some which require pollen and nectar only from this plant!

**BLOOMS: SUMMER**



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#### **Oregon sunshine** (*Eriophyllum lanatum*):

Bright yellow mini sunflowers blanket this native. Oregon sunshine grows 4-24in tall and likes dry soils. Seeds spread easily! Attractive to several species of butterflies as well as many bees, moths, and beetles.

**BLOOMS: SUMMER**



M.A. WILSON

#### **Showy Townsend daisy** (*Townsendia florifera*):

Bees, butterflies, and other insects love this daisy. Plants have 18-30 pink, pale lavender, or white ray flowers. The stems are leafy and grow 2-8in tall. Townsendia enjoys full sun and is drought tolerant.

**BLOOMS: SUMMER**



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### Pollinator pro tips:

**Tend your garden.** Native plants (even drought tolerant ones) will need regular watering in order to establish their roots. This can sometimes take a couple of years. Once their roots are established, they won't need as much water and should thrive in our Central Oregon climate.

**Add shelter, nesting sites, and water.** Consider this permission to leave your garden wild or messy! Pollinators take cover in plants that have died back for the season, and dead stems and twigs provide nesting sites for some species. Water sources like puddles or bird baths offer sustenance and key minerals.

Disclaimer: While we've done our best to be accurate, bloom times are different every year, and species are often reclassified.

Find even more details on these plants and others at: [deschuteslandtrust.org/pollinator-garden](https://deschuteslandtrust.org/pollinator-garden)

M.A. WILSON



**Lowly penstemon** (*Penstemon humilis*):

This native penstemon has bright blue flowers that grow on stems 4-10in tall. Drought tolerant and enjoys full sun. There are many native penstemons; pick a color that suits your garden and complements other bloom times. **BLOOMS: SUMMER**

JOAN AMERIGO



**Lupine:** There are many kinds of native lupine. Plant sizes range from short low-growing varieties that like dry soils, to tall bushes that would grow along a river. Most flowers are purple-blue. Pick your favorite to complement bloom times of your other garden plants. **BLOOMS: SUMMER**

MIKE LATTIG



**Snow buckwheat** (*Eriogonum niveum*):

A low-growing, drought tolerant native with sage green leaves, tall stems, and white or light pink flowers. Flowers cover this 20in tall plant and provide late-season food for bees and butterflies.

**BLOOMS: LATE SUMMER-FALL**

MIKE LATTIG



**Hoary aster** (*Dieteria canescens*):

This aster family native is covered with bright purple flowers. Plants grow 6-30in tall with diffuse branching. Likes dry soils and limited water. Visited by sweat and honey bees and cabbage white butterflies.

**BLOOMS: LATE SUMMER-FALL**

JAY MATHER



**Canada goldenrod** (*Solidago canadensis*):

Yellow flowers on 2-5ft tall plants. Likes full sun to part shade, medium water, and a variety of soils. It spreads via rhizomes. Provides nectar for bees, monarchs, hummingbirds, and other insects.

**BLOOMS: LATE SUMMER-FALL**

TIM COTTER



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210 NW IRVING AVENUE, SUITE 102, BEND, OREGON 97703  
[DESCHUTESLANDTRUST.ORG](https://deschuteslandtrust.org) PHONE [541] 330 0017