

FLIES

# THE TRUTH ABOUT THE BIRDS AND THE BEES

Most flowering plants rely on animals called pollinators to reproduce. One-third of human food crops need pollination. A world without pollinators would be a world without apples, blueberries, strawberries, chocolates, almonds, pumpkins, and many other important food, fiber, and medicinal plants. Declines in certain pollinator populations and localized ecosystem disruptions have been reported worldwide. The causes of pollinator declines include loss of habitat, misuse of pesticides, invasive plants and animals, diseases, and parasites.

While visiting flowers to collect nectar or pollen, pollinators brush against the reproductive parts of the flower, depositing pollen from a recently visited flower. This step is necessary for many plants to produce fruits and seeds.

## FAVORITE FLOWER COLOR

Red, orange or yellow

Significant declines in diversity of butterflies observed in the U.S.

## STATUS

OUR FUTURE OF POLLINATORS. FLIES ON THE WINGS. The flies that you can see are only pollinators.

# GET TO KNOW OUR POLLINATORS



BATS

BEES

BETTERLES

HUMMINGBIRDS

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## CREATE YOUR OWN POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY GARDEN!

- **Color talks.** Different-colored flowers attract different kinds of pollinators. Plan your garden to have a wide variety of colorful blooms throughout the spring and summer.
- **Go native.** Focus on plants that are native to your region, which are adapted to cooperate with many of your local pollinators.
- **Create a big target.** Arrange pollinator-attracting plants in clumps, rather than single plants. This will help pollinators find flowers more easily.
- **No yard?** Add pollinator-friendly plants to window boxes and balconies!

## USE PESTICIDES RESPONSIBLY

To help protect pollinators, reduce the level of pesticides used in and around your home. If you must use pesticides, switch to those that are targeted to those pests and try to spray only when pollinators are not in your garden, such as at night or when flowers are not in bloom.

## GET ACTIVE!

City parks, greenways, schools, golf courses, and community gardens can all easily be made into pollinator havens. Support farms and businesses that limit their use of pesticides to protect pollinators.

## LEARN MORE

<http://dels.nas.edu/pollinator>  
[www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org)  
 or visit your local native plant society.

Developed by the National Academies based on the 2006 Status of Pollinators in North America. To order the report, contact the National Academies Press, 500 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001; (800) 624-6242 or <http://www.nap.edu>. Support for the design and printing of this report was generous, provided by the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign. Manufactured by American Slide-Chart, ASC178NS

# GOOD PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS



THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES  
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NAPPC

TIPS AND OTHER COOL STUFF

POLLINATORS IT ATTRACTS  
Butterfly, Hummingbird, native Bee

WHERE IT GROWS  
North, Northeast, South, Central, Midwest, Southeast, Southwest

SUN REQUIREMENTS

Bloom season:  
 Summer



# MOTHS

## BUTTERFLIES



Unknown.

Some populations are declining, but overall status is unknown.



## BATS

Unknown.



## BEEES

One pollinating species endangered in the U.S. Other flies are unknown.



## BEEETLES

Significant declines in diversity of butterflies observed in the U.S.



## HUMMINGBIRDS

Several moths on endangered species list, but status of many pollinating moths is unknown.



## WASPS

These pollinating bat species threatened or endangered in U.S. and Mexico due to tourism and agricultural development.



## FLIES

Many populations declining in U.S. and U.S. Status of many species is unknown.

Blue or purple, some have been found only at night.

Wings of green with a white opening.

Red, orange or black.

Large and white or pale in color, sometimes open only at night.



Preference unknown.

Large and white or pale in color, sometimes open only at night.

Red, orange or yellow.

Some species may be declining, but overall status is unknown.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

