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Bee Friendly Gardening™

A Program of Pollinator Partnership

January 2024



Pollinator Gardens and Food Forests Work Well Together

Carrie Regenstreif, Community Engagement Coordinator, Sudbury Shared Harvest, BFG Member

Planting pollinator gardens within food forest areas is a good way to ensure fruit production while creating habitat for pollinating insects. Sudbury Shared Harvest, a non-profit group based in northeastern Ontario, Canada, has been coordinating volunteer involvement in establishing community food forests on public properties since 2015.



Sudbury Shared Harvest has worked with individuals and community groups to establish a number of small food forests ranging from 300 to 8000 square feet, with patches of native flowers being an important element in each.

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Monarch and Pollinator Gardens

The Flower Fields - Carlsbad, California

Nancee Caye, Monarch Resource, Flower Fields; BFG Member

I care for the Monarch Butterfly Garden at The Flower Fields in Carlsbad, California. The garden itself contains over 120 milkweed plants which are the host plants for the resident population of monarch butterflies in our southern CA area. When I first started here almost 8 years ago, there were only a few flowering plants to help attract the beneficial pollinators that I felt would make for a stronger garden. So, this past summer and fall I was allowed to start planting on the slopes bordering the milkweed bed. My goal for both gardens is to attract many types of butterflies, bumble bees, honey bees, ladybugs, green lacewings, hover flies, and more.



For the new Pollinator Friendly Garden, I chose to start with basic structural plants that have proven to be favorites to pollinators and birds. *Agapanthus*, *Lantana*, *Polygala fruticosa*, and *Salvias* have been installed, and are already proving to be attractive to bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Perennial and annual plants will be added as weather permits, such as *Verbena bonariensis*, lemon balm, zinnias, fennel, California poppies, nasturtiums, foxgloves, and oriental poppies.

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Member Benefit - Bee Friendly Gardening Facebook Page

Are you taking full advantage of your BFG Member benefits? Our [BFG Facebook page](#) is buzzing with inspiration. Recent posts include a pudding dish by The Bee and Bee, a video of a monarch eclosing from its chrysalis by Scout Song, and some great advice (accompanied by a resource) from Cathy Streett: "Sharing this quick look at what is happening when you [#LeaveTheLeaves](#) and [#leavethestems](#)! I hope you have provided for wildlife throughout the winter in your [#beefriendlygardening](#) spot." Come [join the conversation](#)!



Guide to Creating a Pollinator Garden



Pollinator Partnership has a new Quick Reference Guide to help you create a Bee Friendly Garden if you don't already have one. It is the second in our new series, after [Bee Houses](#). Check out the [Guide](#).

Final Chance to Sign Up for Pollinator Steward Certification

If you haven't already, register for our Pollinator Steward Certification (PSC) program by February 1st! PSC empowers people with the scientific know-how to make a real difference for pollinators, people, and the planet. This course is ideal for home gardeners, land managers (large and small), farmers, and anyone that wants to do more to support pollinators. Join our growing community of Certified Pollinator Stewards!



Pollinator Steward Certification Schedule 2024

All modules will take place at 4:00pm to 5:30pm PST / 7:00pm to 8:30pm EST

Session 1 – Introduction to Pollinators
Tuesday, February 6th

Session 2 – Indigenous Perspectives
Tuesday, February 13th

Session 3 – Butterflies and other Pollinators
Tuesday, February 20th

Session 4 – Creating Habitat for Pollinators Overview
Tuesday, February 27th

Session 5a – Habitat Creation: Yards, Gardens, and Balconies
Tuesday, March 5th

Session 5b – Habitat Creation: Large Land Managers, Right-of-Ways, and Municipalities
Wednesday, March 6th

Session 5c – Habitat Creation: Farmers, Growers, and Agricultural Landscapes
Thursday, March 7th

Session 6 – Identification and Monitoring
Tuesday, April 9th

Session 7 – Expand your Impact!
Tuesday, April 16th

[SIGN UP](#)

Notable Dates:

- January 28 - National Seed Swap Day
- February - National Bird Feeding Month
- February 5 - Western Monarch Day
- February 6 - [Pollinator Steward Certification](#) begins (register [here](#)!)
- February 14 - Valentine's Day

Brought to you by BFG - be a part of the Bee Friendly movement!



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