

Unless this can be done, however,



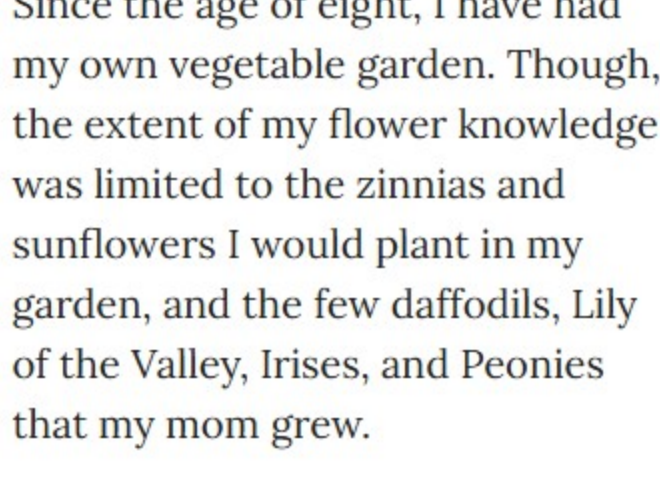
# Bee Friendly Gardening™

July 2023

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## My Pollinator Garden Surprise: From Seed Collection to Planting

Written by Sandra Chenal, P2 NRCS Ohio Liaison



As I became an adult, my understanding and passion for farming, gardening, and wildlife magnified as I studied natural resource planning and management in college and went on to work for the USDA.

After retiring from the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), I was fortunate to get hired by Pollinator Partnership, where I have been able to use my conservation planning experience and knowledge of Farm Bill programs to help folks who want to create large (½ ac or larger) pollinator meadows participate in USDA programs to help establish them. I also help train government officials on pollinator habitat installation and plant identification.

To brush up on some of my Ohio wildflower ID and gather some photos for an upcoming training event, I arranged to go on a wildflower walk with one of my colleagues. It was later in the fall, so all the plants had gone to seed. With permission, I collected a few seed head samples of each of the species on the well-established site. All the seed heads were all placed in one unlabeled bag, photos and notes from my training tucked away for future reference. Later in the winter, I revisited my collection to refresh my memory, only to find the seed pods crumbled and unrecognizable. So, I did what most gardeners love to do...I decided to sow the seeds!

## An Introduction to Introduced Species: Non-Natives May Play an Important Role in Your Garden

Written by Sara Wittenberg, Bee Friendly Gardening Coordinator

When constructing a built landscape, such as a pollinator garden, floral composition may consist of plants categorized as native (have always been present on the landscape), non-native (have been introduced, either deliberately or accidentally, by humans), or invasive (non-native and likely to cause harm to human health, the economy, or the environment). Because of the habit invasives have of crowding and outcompeting native species, they can affect all species that rely on those native species.



They simultaneously destroy biodiversity; they should be avoided whenever possible in your garden. In fact, the International Union for Conservation of Nature considers the introduction of invasive species one of the most significant threats to global biodiversity. When designing your Bee Friendly Garden, however, as long as you are careful to avoid invasive plants, interweaving some of your favorite pollinator-friendly non-native plants can have a positive effect.

**Send us a photo of your Bee Friendly Garden**



Thank you to CJ Blessing in Clintonville, OH for sharing a photo of her BFG sign in her colorful pollinator patch! We would love to see pictures of your garden. Email them to [bfg@pollinator.org](mailto:bfg@pollinator.org).

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After 25 years of serving pollinators, people, and the planet, we are thrilled to share our newly released 'About Us' video. Please check it out, and join us in sharing this video, following us on social media, or participating in some of Pollinator Partnership's other programs. Your support makes a big difference!



**Come Work with Us!**

# WE'RE HIRING

## MIDWEST REGIONAL PARTNER BIOLOGIST

Help Ohio and other midwestern farmers support pollinators and other beneficial insects with native habitat



**Compensation and Benefits**  
Beginning salary range is \$50-\$64,000 commensurate with experience. P2 provides a wide range of benefits including retirement paid time off, medical insurance, and a flexible work environment.



**Position Location:**  
This position will ideally be based in southern Ohio, primarily working remotely from a home office with occasional travel from the Hamilton County Service Center. Position will include occasional travel to farms and events throughout the Midwest for field days, workshops, and outreach.



**Partner Partnership (P2)** is looking for an environmental and conservation professional who possesses the skills and desire to provide technical assistance and educational support to landowners and producers in partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

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APPLY NOW

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New resource now available - download our Climate Change and Pollinators brochure to learn more about how climate change impacts pollinators and the little things we can all do each day to support them

[illegible]

- **July 22-30** - National Moth Week
- **August 17** - National Nonprofit Day
- **August 19** - World Honey Bee Day

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