



Bee Friendly Gardening

A Program of Pollinator Partnership
June 2024



Nurturing Roots, Growing Greener: The Story of Farm City Detroit

A Journey Towards Sustainability

Maria Largacha, EMG

In the heart of Old Redford, where abandoned lots once stood, now thrives a beacon of vitality and community spirit - Farm City Detroit. Spearheaded by Maria Largacha, an MSU Extension Master Gardener, and a dedicated team of volunteers, this initiative embodies the mission of cultivating a thriving neighborhood in Detroit. Part of the larger Detroit Blight Busters effort, Farm City Detroit collaborates in the mission of revitalizing neighborhoods.



READ ARTICLE

Tips for Natural and Organic Aphid Pest Control

Suzanne Bontempo, owner of [Plant Harmony](#), [Qualified IPM Advocate](#), [QWEL certified](#), and a [ReScape CA Professional](#)



It's spring! Our gardens are bursting with new, tender leaf growth and flower buds, which also attract aphids. In most cases, aphids don't cause much damage to your plants. You can often ignore them, and they can even be a positive sign of a healthy garden ecosystem! But when that threshold of tolerance has been reached, how can you reduce their populations in ways that support the garden's ecology?

READ ARTICLE

Bee Friendly Gardening is on iNaturalist

Have you registered your BFG? If so, take the next step and [join our iNaturalist Project](#) to document the pollinators using your BFG. (If not - what are you waiting for? Register your garden [here](#); and if you don't yet have one, we have [resources](#) to help you create one!)

Don't forget - if you register your garden, join iNaturalist, and upload your first observation in your BFG, you can [apply for both of those badges](#) via our new badge system!



Once you have an iNaturalist account you can participate in so many efforts, not just BFG! For example, Pollinator Partnership has many iNaturalist efforts that you can join, such as the [2024 Pollinator Week BioBlitz](#), or the City Nature Challenge, introduced to me by BFG Member Cathy Streett: "The City Nature Challenge is a worldwide project. It encourages people to get out in nature and collect info on the species they come across. Data is useful to scientists and interesting for those who enjoy the challenge. The amazing part is I only bioblitzed in my BFG and was able to make 132 observations of 43 species right here at HOME! iNat is so much fun and so important to documenting the biodiversity you observe. I hope this inspires folks to continue to change their home landscape to encourage all wildlife."

READ ARTICLE

Happy Pollinator Week!

Pollinator Week 2024 will take place June 17-23, 2024

Make sure you look at our [Pollinator Week webpage](#) for a wealth of resources to help you celebrate, from the hugely anticipated Pollinator Power Party, to a Pollinator Week Toolkit, posters and shirts, and a map of activities to find an event near you!



Notable Dates:

- June - Perennial Garden Month
- June 16 - Father's Day
- June 20 - Summer Solstice
- June 19-25 - [Pollinator Week](#)
- July - Smart Irrigation Month
- July 4 - Independence Day
- July 10-National Don't Step on a Bee Day (UK holiday)
- July 22-30 [National Moth Week](#)

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



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