

Sara Wittenberg <PollinatorPartnership@mailman.bloomerang-mail.com> to me

10:43 AM (7 minutes ago)



Bee Friendly Gardening™ Newsletter

Dear Sara

March brings a welcome sense of awakening, as our gardens begin to stir with new growth and early signs of life. Buds swell, blooms emerge, and pollinators start to reappear, reminding us that the season of renewal is underway. It's a time to gently reengage—holding space, planting with intention, and making room for the vibrant activity to come. Each small step helps create a thriving habitat for the pollinators that will soon be in full swing.

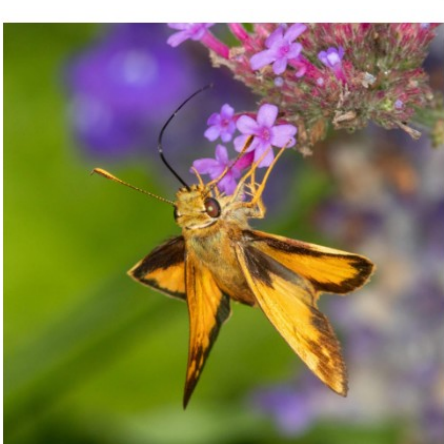
Happy gardening,



Sara Wittenberg
Bee Friendly Gardening Manager
Pollinator Partnership

Butterflies: Stars of a Pollinator Garden

David Cappaert, [Quamash EcoResearch](#)



Butterflies enjoy great popularity, even among people with an aversion to bugs. They are beautiful, with rich coloration and striking patterns. They are (mostly) large, and easy to observe and photograph. One more reason for the affection we have for butterflies: caterpillars, the only kind of insect larva most five-year-olds would recognize. There are about 750 butterfly species in the United States. Most people could identify one in particular: the monarch. But in a garden with a rich floral landscape, you might see 10-20 species; here I highlight 17 common butterflies, beginning with the most underappreciated group.

This is part two of a three part series. Check back in April to learn more about flower flies.

[Read the full article](#)

The American Bumble Bee: A Giant Worth Fighting For

Kelly Parks, Certified Pollinator Steward | Host, The Secret Pollinators Podcast

I have always admired bumble bees. There is something about them – their size, their unhurried confidence, the way they work a flower like they have all the time in the world – that I found captivating long before I could tell one species from another. But admiration is one thing. Falling in love is something else entirely. That happened about 20 years ago, and it started with a bear.



[Read the full article](#)

Don't Miss It!

Bee Friendly Gardening Virtual Garden Tour
 APRIL 16, 2026
 5:00 PACIFIC, 7:00 CENTRAL, 8:00 EASTERN
 REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Make plans to attend our first ever virtual garden tour, hosted by five of our very own BFG members!

[Register](#)

Get Ready for Native Plant Month with My Home Park

Celebrate National Native Plant Month with Bee Friendly Gardening and My Home Park

We are pleased to announce our second native plant sale hosted by Bee Friendly Gardening and My Home Park! This time around, we are thrilled to expand this sale to the entire contiguous U.S.

Pollinator Partnership's Bee Friendly Gardening and My Home Park make it easier for people to support pollinators with native plants. From April 1 - April 30, BFG Members receive 10% off this sale by using the discount code P2BFG26. By purchasing a native plant garden kit through this partnership, you'll not only create a thriving pollinator-friendly space in your own yard, you'll also be helping make native plants more accessible to others.

For every 4 plants sold through this partnership, My Home Park will add another one to a native plant garden jackpot, available for claim by one lucky BFG member. Last year we were thrilled to award 140 plants to a single BFG member to help expand their pollinator habitat project. Help us make this year's jackpot even bigger by shopping this sale! Stay tuned for details on how to apply after the sale ends April 30th.

[Shop the Collection](#)

BFG Bonus Webinar

THINKING LIKE A BEE

"Thinking Like a Bee" moves beyond the basics to explore what solitary cavity-nesting bees physically require to thrive -- their life cycles, their vulnerabilities, and the science-based practices that make the difference between a bee habitat and a bee hazard.

Thursday April 23
10PT/12CT/1ET
Must Register to Receive Link

[Register](#)

Swallowtails Named 2026 Pollinator of the Year

We are thrilled to share the 2026 Pollinator Week logo and announce our Pollinator of the Year: swallowtail butterflies!

This year's design draws meaningful attention to the relationship between caterpillars and their host plants, featuring a spicebush swallowtail caterpillar (*Papilio troilus*) and its host plant, spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*). The featured pollinator in the logo is a species of swallowtail, celebrating this iconic group of butterflies and the essential role they play in supporting healthy ecosystems.

Download and share the logo with your friends, family, and fellow pollinator conservationists and help us spotlight the power of pollinators!

[Download and Share the Logo](#)

Notable Dates

- April - [National Native Plant Month](#)
- April - National Garden Month
- April 5-9 - National Wildlife Week
- April 14 - National Gardening Day
- April 17 - International Bat Appreciation Day
- April 22 - [Earth Day](#)
- [Pollinator Week](#) June 22-28

Interested in writing an article for BFG?

We're always looking for content for our recurring columns "My Favorite Native Plant/Pollinator" [Tell us about your favorite native plant, why you love it, and what pollinators love it.] and "How Many Host Plants?" [Highlight what host plants you have included in your garden, as well as the pollinators that they support.]. We would love to feature you in an upcoming BFG newsletter! Simply email your response, along with a photo if possible, to bfg@pollinator.org.

Bloomerang: What You Need to Know

Now that we are using a different Customer Relations Management (CRM) software, what does that mean for BFG members? First, let's define each platform: *Bloomerang* is a donor management software that helps organizations like Pollinator Partnership keep track of donations and sponsorships. *Bloomerang Fundraising* (formerly QGive) is Bloomerang's payment processor that allows us to receive online donations.

#1 If you use PayPal for your recurring annual Bee Friendly Gardening Membership payment, we encourage you to discontinue that payment and instead update your payment method to Bloomerang Fundraising. In Bloomerang Fundraising, you have the ability to choose the start date of your payment. Once you have made the switch, don't forget to cancel your recurring donation in PayPal.

#2 With Bloomerang Fundraising, donors can easily create and access their donor portal. This portal allows you to view your giving history, update payment information, and access tax receipts.

We need all of our supporters to switch your recurring donations over to Bloomerang Fundraising by July 1, 2026. Thank you for your incredible support. Your donations make a real impact for pollinators and their habitat!

[Switch to Bloomerang Fundraising](#)

Bee Friendly Gardening is for Every Landscape!

Be a part of the Bee Friendly movement.

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