Reuben Hoar Library
Native Pollinators

75% of our flowering plants rely on pollinators, but many of our native pollinators are in decline

Bombus fervidus

- Pollinators include bees, butterflies, moths, wasps, flies and beetles
- New England has over 350 species of bees, including sweat bees, leaf cutter and mason bees, carpenter bees and bumblebees
- Metrowest has 2 at-risk bumblebees, the golden northern bumblebee and the half-black bumblebee

Check out *Littleton's Natural Resources* on the Conservation webpage
https://www.littletonma.org/conservation

Reuben Hoar Plant List

Hummingbird Moth

Reuben Hoar Library Plant List (5/8/2020)

Quantity	Botanical Name	Common Name	Size	Notes	Comments
3	Acer saccharum	Sugar Maple	2 ½" – 3" Cal.	B&B	
3	Amelanchier canadensis	Shad Tree	8' – 10' HT	B&B, multistemmed, POLLINATOR	Used "Autumn Brilliance", a hybrid cross of Downy Serviceberry and Allegheny Service berry
1	Cercis canadensis	Red Bud	10;' – 12' HT	B&B, multistemmed, POLLINATOR	Original specimen died and was replaced May 2022
6	Cornus sericea	Red Osier Dogwood	#7 Container	POLLINATOR	
1	Diervilla lonicera	No. Bush Honeysuckle	42—48" HT	B&B, no substitution, POLLINATOR	
37	Dennstaedtia punctilobula	Hay Scented Fern	2 Quart	L.A. to layout, POLLINATOR	
1	Hamemelis virginiana	Witch Hazel	4' – 5' HT	B&B, multistemmed, POLLINATOR	
6	Ilex glabra 'Densa'	Inkberry	36' – 42" HT	No substitutions, POLLINATOR	
42	Iris versicolor	Blue Iris	2 Quart	L.A. to layout, POLLINATOR	
3	Juniperus virginiana	Eastern Red Cedar	6' – 7' HT	B&B	
10	Juniperus x 'Blue City'	Blue Chip Juniper	#3 Container	No substitutions	
2	Prunus maritima	Beach Plum	5' – 6' HT	POLLINATOR	
5	Rhododendron tomentosum	Labrador Tea	36" – 42"	No substitution, POLLINATOR	
12	Rosa virginiana	Virginia Rose	#5 Container	No substitution, POLLINATOR	
1	Salix petiolaris	Meadow willow	#5 Container	POLLINATOR	Could not be sourced, replaced with silky willow and sandbark willow from New England Wetland Plants
1	Salix lucida	Shining willow	#5 Container	POLLINATOR	Could not be sourced, replaced with silky willow and sandbark willow from New England Wetland Plants
1	Salix humilis	Prairie Willow	#5 Container	POLLINATOR	
12	Schizachyrium scoparium	Blue Stem Grass	#3 Container		
3	Spirea alba	Meadowsweet Spirea	#5 Container	POLLINATOR	
24	Vaccinium macrocarpon	American Cranberry	#3 Container	POLLINATOR	

Reuben Hoar Library Tall Fescue Wildflower Mix

Sweat Bee

Botanical Name	Common Name	% Weight
Asclepias syriaca	Common Milkweed	3.58
Baptisia tinctoria	Small Yellow Wild Indigo	3.58
Cirsium discolor	Pasture Thistle	3.58
Desmodium canadense	Showy Tick Trefoil	3.58
Doellingeria umbellata	Flat Topped Aster	2.27
Eutrochium maculatum	Joe Pye Weed	4.77
Hypericum puntatum	Dotted St. John's Wort	3.58
Hypericum pyramidatum	Great St. John's Wort	3.58
Pedicularis canadensis	Wood Betony	4.77
Penstemon hirsutus	Hairy Beardtongue	5.96
Solidago flexicaulis	Zig Zag Goldenrod	1.19
Solidago juncea	Early Goldenrod	1.19
Andropogon gerardii	Big Bluestem	16.69
Panicum virgatum	Switch Grass	23.84
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	17.88

Source: Prairie Moon Nursery

Recommended Nurse Seed: Prairie Moon's Regreen, a short lived perennial cross between annual wheat and perennial wheat grass

Mowing: Throughout first season when plants reach 8-10 inches and mow down to 4-6 inches. After first 1-2 years recommend annual burning or mowing. To manage as pollinator habitat, mow in spring once evening temperatures are averaging at least 50 degrees so insects can emerge from their overwintering habitat. For plant diversity, vary when management occurs ie, mow one area in spring and the other in the fall and switch every year or two.

Not available for the mix: Diervilla lonicera (northern bush honeysuckle), Eutrochium dubium (coastal plain Joe Pye weed), Solidago puberua (downy goldenrod) and Spirea alba (Meadowsweet)

As originally spec'ed by

Virginia Rose

Prairie Willow

Beardtongue

Pollinator and others uses

The plants seeded at Reuben Hoar Library and Cloverdale provide resources for any number of species. Just a few examples:

Source: Holm, Heather. 2014. Pollinators of Native Plants. Pollination Press LLC

Monarch Butterfly

Asclepias tuberosa – Butterfly Milkweed
- Monarch Butterfly, Queen Butterfly, Milkweed Tussock Moth – Larval host plant
- Sulphur Butterflies – nectar
- Crescent Butterflies – nectar
- Great Spangled Fritillary Butterfly – nectar
- Leafcutter Bees – nectar
- Great Sweat Bee – nectar
- Small Carpenter Bees – nectar
- Small Resin Bees – nectar
- Sweat Bees – nectar
- Paper Wasp – nectar
- Cuckoo Bees – nectar
- Ants – nectar

Echinacea purpurea – Purple Coneflower
- Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly – nectar
- Monarchs – nectar
- Red Admirals – nectar
- Sulphurs – nectar
- Fritillaries – nectar
- Bumblebees – nectar and pollen
- Leafcutter Bees – nectar and pollen
- Small Carpenter Bees – nectar and pollen
- Sweat Bees – nectar and pollen
- Long-Horned Bees – nectar and pollen
- Digger Bees – nectar and pollen
- Mining Bees – nectar and pollen
- Banded Long-Horn Beetle – nectar and pollen

Penstemon digitalis – Tall (smooth) beard tongue
- Mason Bee, Pollen-Collecting Wasp- specialists
- Small Carpenter Bees – pollen
- Digger Bees – nectar
- Sweat Bees – pollen
- Leafcutter Bees – nectar
- Bumblebees – nectar
- Syrphid Flies – pollen

Rudbeckia hirta – Black-Eyed Susan
- Long-Horned Bees - pollen and nectar
- Leafcutter Bees - pollen and nectar
- Cuckoo Bees - pollen and nectar
- Bumblebees - pollen and nectar
- Mining Bees - pollen and nectar
- Green Sweat Bees - pollen and nectar
- Small Carpenter Bees - pollen and nectar
- Wavy-lined Emerald Moth – larval host plant
- Southern Emerald Moth – larval host plant
- Common Eupithecia – larval host plant
- Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly – larval host plant
- Two Moons Beewolf - nectar
- Sand Wasps - nectar
- Mason Wasps - nectar
- Thread-Waisted Wasps – nectar
- Soldier Beetles – nectar and pollen
- Blister Beetles – nectar
- Bee Flies – nectar and pollen
- Syrphid Flies – pollen and nectar

Verbena hastata – Blue Vervain
- Verbena Moth – larval host plant
- Syrphid Flies – nectar
- Bee Flies – nectar
- Sweat Bees – nectar
- Green Sweat Bees – nectar
- Small Carpenter Bees – nectar
- Bumblebees – nectar
- Long-Horned Bees – nectar
- Leafcutter Bees – nectar
- Mining Bees – nectar
- Silver Spotted Skipper - nectar

Monarda fistulosum – Wild Bergamot
- Hermit Sphinx Moth – larval host plant
- Snout Moths – larval host plant
- Mason Wasp - nectar
- Leafcutter Bee - nectar
- Sweat Bee - nectar
- Mining Bee - nectar
- Great Black Wasp - nectar
- Bee Flies - nectar
- Syrphid Flies – nectar
- Soldier Beetles – nectar
- Banded Long-Horned Beetle – nectar
- Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly
- Silver Spotted Skipper Butterfly – nectar
- Monarch Butterfly – nectar
- Great Spangled Fritillary Butterfly – nectar
- Moths – nectar
- Snout Moths – nectar
- Hummingbird Clearwing Moths – nectar
- Bumblebees – nectar
- Long-Horned Bees – nectar
- Cuckoo Bees – nectar
- Green Sweat Bees –pollen
- Wool Carder Bees – nectar
- Small Resin Bees – nectar
- Sweat Bees –pollen
- Leafcutter Bees – nectar

Symphyotrichum novae-angliae – New England Aster
- Pearl Crescent Butterfly – larval host plant
- Canadian Sonia Moth – larval host plant
- Small Carpenter Bees – nectar and pollen
- Leafcutter Bees – nectar and pollen
- Bumblebees – nectar and pollen
- Long-Horned Bees – nectar and pollen
- Cuckoo Bees – nectar and pollen
- Green Sweat Bees – nectar and pollen
- Common Buckeye Butterfly - nectar
- Crescent Butterfly - nectar
- Bee Flies – nectar and pollen
- Syrphid Flies – nectar and pollen
- Soldier Beetles – nectar and pollen

Zizia aurea – Golden Alexanders
- Black Swallowtail – larval host plant
- Ozark Swallowtail – larval host plant
- Rigid Sunflower Borer – larval host plant
- Azure Butterflies - nectar
- Ebony Bugs – nectar
- Soldier Beetles – nectar
- Mining Bees – nectar and pollen
- Mason Bees – nectar and pollen
- Bumblebees – nectar
- Sweat Bees – nectar
- Yellow-Faced Bees
- Small Carpenter Bees
- Potter Wasp – nectar
- Paper Wasp – nectar
- Syrphid Flies –
- Tachinid Flies
- Mason Wasps – nectar

Eupatorium perfoliatum – Boneset
- Clymene Moth – larval host plant
- Three-Lined Flower Moth – larval host plant
- Boneset Borer Moth – larval host plant
- Monarch Butterfly - nectar
- Yellow-Faced Bees – nectar
- Mining Bees – nectar and pollen
- Sweat Bees
- Bumblebees – nectar
- Green Sweat Bees
- Four-Banded Sand Wasp – nectar
- Humped-Back Beewolf – nectar and pollen
- Cuckoo Wasps – nectar

Desmodium canadense – Canada Tick Trefoil
- Northern Cloudywing Butterfly – larval host plant
- Southern Cloudywing Butterfly – larval host plant
- Hoary Edge – larval host plant
- Sweat Bees – nectar and pollen
- Small Resin Bees – nectar and pollen
- Leafcutter Bees – nectar and pollen
- Bumblebees – nectar
- Long-Horned Bees – nectar

Hypericum pyramidatum – Great St. John's Wort
- Black Arches Moth – larval host plant
- Gray Half-Spot Moth – larval host plant
- Leafcutter Bees
- Green Sweat Bees – nectar and pollen
- Sweat Bees – pollen
- Syrphid Flies – nectar and pollen
- Bumblebees – pollen
- Banded Long-Horn Beetles – pollen
- Beewolf – nectar

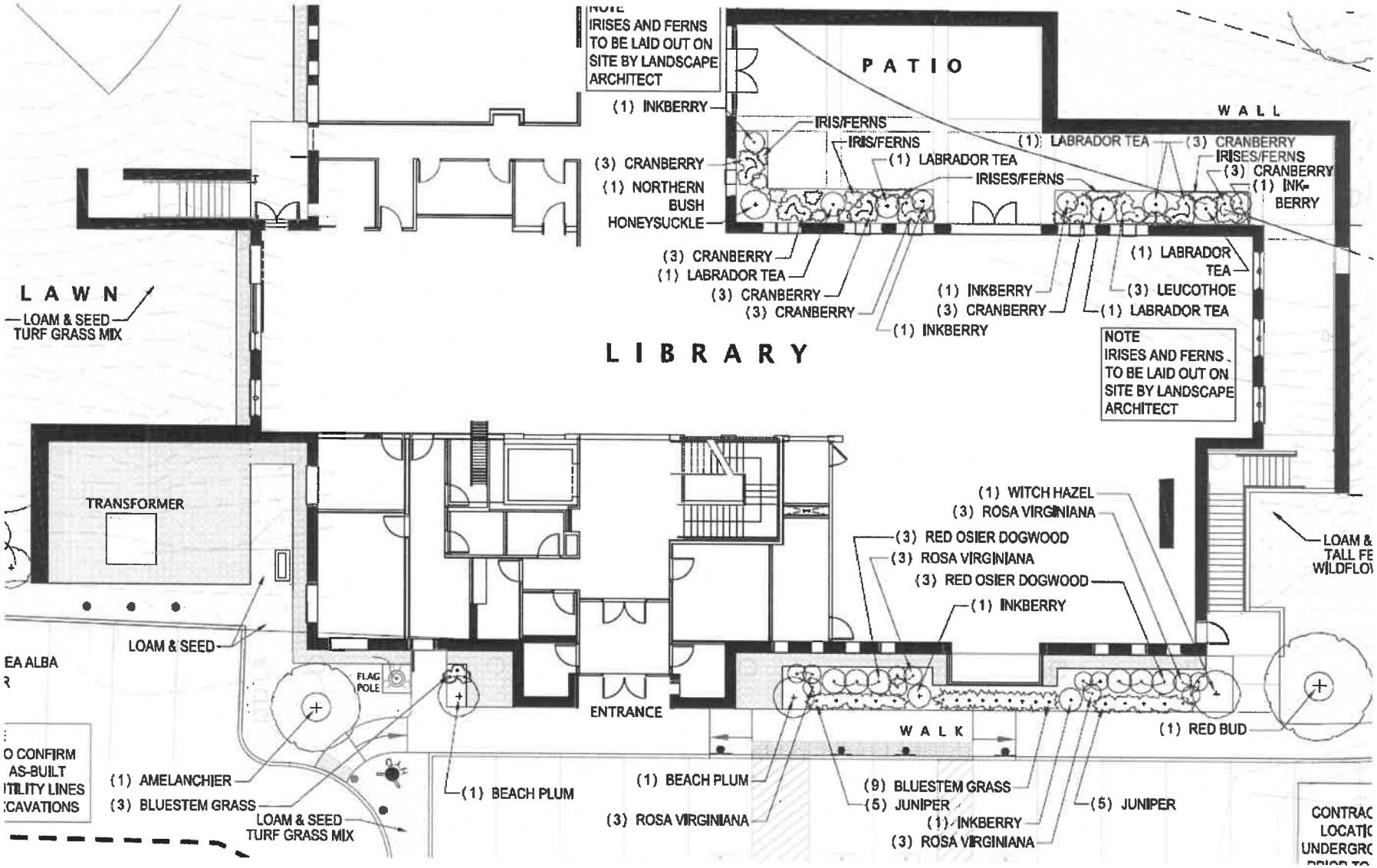
Solidago flexicaulis – Zig Zag Goldenrod
- Bifolied Dichomeris – larval host plant
- Brown Hooded Owlet – larval host plant
- Twirler Moth – larval host plant
- Sweat Bees – nectar
- Yellow-Faced Bees – nectar
- Green Sweat Bees – nectar
- Mining Bees – pollen and nectar
- Bumblebees – nectar
- Mason Wasps – nectar
- Thread-Waisted Wasp – nectar
- Carrot Wasp – nectar
- Syrphid Flies – nectar and pollen
- Goldenrod Solidier Beetle

Tradescantia ohiensis – Spiderwort
- Sweat Bees - pollen
- Green Sweat Bees - pollen
- Mason Bees - pollen
- Small Carpenter Bees - pollen
- Bumblebees - pollen
- Syrphid Flies - pollen
- Bee Flies - pollen
- Eastern Tiger Swallowtail - pollen

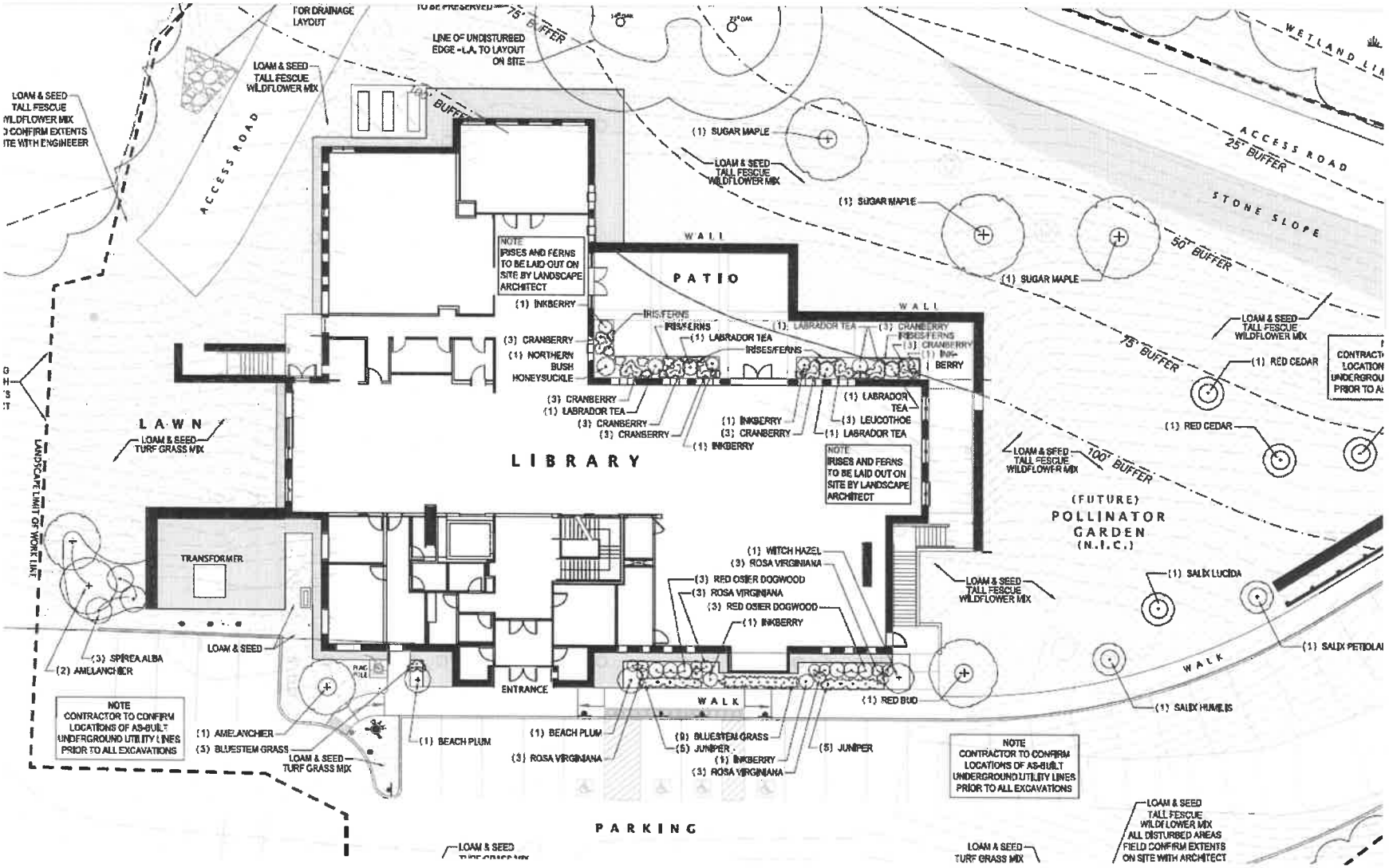
Pycnanthemum virginianum – Virginia Mountain Mint
- Long-Horned Bees – nectar
- Green Sweat Bees – nectar
- Yellow-Faced Bees – nectar
- Small Resin Bees – nectar
- Bumblebees – nectar
- Paper Wasp – nectar
- Thynnid Wasps – nectar
- Great Golden Digger Wasp – nectar
- Great Black Wasp – nectar
- Cuckoo Wasp – nectar
- Beewolves – nectar
- Potter Wasps – nectar
- Grass-Carrying Wasps – nectar
- Soldier Flies – nectar
- Syrphid Flies – nectar
- Banded Hairstreak Butterfly – nectar
- Ants

Wild Bergamont

May 8, 2020 Approved Planting Plan – Building Focus



May 8, 2020 Approved Planting Plan - Overview



GEGEAR LAB AT UMASS DARTMOUTH

Welcome to the native plant finder for pollinator species at risk in Massachusetts!

B. affinis and B. fervidus visiting obedient plant. Photo by RJ Gegear

The plant recommendations for bumblebee species are based on 5 years of species-level field research by the Gegear lab. A species is considered to be at risk if it has shown a significant decline in abundance over the past few decades. It is important to note that pollinator species considered 'rare' or 'specialist' are not necessarily at risk - many rare species are stable and many specialist species have increased in abundance.

The master chart is divided into four categories of plants: pollen sources (bumblebee focus), nectar sources (bumblebee focus), host plants (butterflies) and nectar/pollen sources for other (non bumblebee) bees. Pollen sources are critical because they enable bees to make more bees, nectar sources are critical because they provide fuel for adult bees and butterflies to be active, and host plants are critical because they give caterpillars (larval stage of butterflies) something to eat! Remember, including plants that provide all three functions to as many species as possible throughout the season is critical for developing an effective conservation plan for native pollination systems (the animal AND the plant side of the equation).

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- Select nectar and pollen plants so that you have blooms in every season: Early (March-May), Mid (June-July) and Late (Aug-Sept).
- Spring floral resources are extremely important for all at risk pollinator types so give them a high priority.
- Be aware that in most cases, the species of a plant is far more beneficial to pollinators than named cultivars.
- Select plants that target as many species from the three pollinator groups as possible - a good habitat will support species at risk over the entire season.

Scroll down for a complete list of butterfly and other (non-bumblebee) bee species at risk present during each part of the season. For butterflies, charts are specific to each region of Massachusetts, with host plant and flight time information also provided for each species. Flight time is the part of the season when the adults are present and looking for nectar sources.

Together, we will keep biodiversity and ecosystem health humming for years to come!

--RJ Gegear

Research-based native plants to support MA bumblebee species at risk. Plants supporting butterfly and other bee species at risk are also indicated. List created by Dr. Robert J Gegear, UMASS Dartmouth (rgegear@umassd.edu).

Pollen Sources

LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT TYPE	SUN	SOIL	BLOOM TIME: Early M	Early A	Mid M	Mid J	Late J	Late A	Late S	Late O	'At risk' species: BUMBLEBEES B. terricola	B. fervidus	B. vagans	BUTTERFLIES	OTHER BEES
Hypericum ascyron	Great St. John's-wort	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med												NA	
Hypericum majus	Greater St. John's-wort	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Wet												NA	
Hypericum punctatum	Spotted St. John's-wort	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry												NA	
Hypericum prolificum	Shrubby St. John's-wort	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry												NA	
Rosa acicularis	Bristly rose	Shrub	Full-Shade	Med, Dry												NA	
Rosa blanda	Smooth rose	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry												NA	
Rosa carolina	Carolina rose	Shrub	Full-Part	Wet, Med, Dry												NA	
Rosa nitida	Shining rose	Shrub	Full-Part	Wet, Med												NA	
Rosa palustris	Swamp rose	Shrub	Full-Part	Med												NA	
Rosa virginiana	Virginia rose	Shrub	Full-Part	Med												NA	
Rubus odoratus	Flowering raspberry	Shrub	Full-Part	Med												NA	
Salix discolor	Pussy willow (male)	Shrub	Full	Med												NA	
Salix humilis	Prairie willow (male)	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry												NA	
Salix lucida	Shining willow (male)	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, wet												NA	
Salix occidentalis	Dwarf prairie willow (male)	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry												NA	
Salix petiolaris	Meadow willow (male)	Shrub/sm tree	Full-Part	Med												NA	
Salix bebbiana	Bebb willow (male)	Shrub	Full-Part	Dry, Med, Wet												NA	
Spiraea alba	White meadowsweet	Shrub	Full-Part	Wet, Med												NA	
Spiraea tomentosa	Steeplebush	Shrub	Full-Part	Wet												NA	

Nectar sources

LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT TYPE	SUN	SOIL	BLOOM TIME: Early M	Early A	Mid M	Mid J	Late J	Late A	Late S	Late O	BUMBLEBEES B. terricola	B. fervidus	B. vagans	BUTTERFLIES	OTHER BEES
Blephilia hirsuta	Hairy woodmint	Herb. perenn.	Part-Shade	Med,Dry													
Blephilia ciliata	Downy woodmint	Herb. perenn.	Part-Shade	Dry													
Astragalus canadensis	Canadian milkvetch	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Dry													
Eupatorium perfoliatum	Boneset Thoroughwort	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med													
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	Narrowleaf mountain mint	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Asclepias amplexicaulis	Clasping milkweed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Dry													
Asclepias exaltata	Poke milkweed	Herb. perenn.	Part, Shade	Med, Dry													
Asclepias incarnata	Swamp milkweed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Asclepias purpurascens	Purple milkweed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med,Dry													
Asclepias quadrifolia	Four-leaved milkweed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Herb. perenn.	Full	Wet, Med, Dry													
Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly milkweed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Dry													
Asclepias verticillata	Whorled milkweed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud	Tree	Part	Med, Dry													
Eutrochium dubium	Coastal Plain Joe-Pye weed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med													
Eutrochium fistulosum	Hollow Joe-Pye weed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med													
Eutrochium maculatum	Spotted Joe-Pye weed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med													
Eutrochium purpureum	Purple Joe-Pye weed	Herb. perenn.	Part	Wet,Med, Dry													
Ilex opaca	American holly	Tree	Full-Shade	Med, Dry													
Symphyotrichum lateriflorum	Calico aster	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med Wet, Med dry													
Salix discolor	Pussy willow	Shrub	Full	Med													
Salix humilis	Prairie willow	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Salix lucida	Shining willow	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, wet													
Salix occidentalis	Dwarf prairie willow	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Salix petiolaris	Meadow willow	Shrub/sm tree	Full-Part	Med													
Salix bebbiana	Bebb willow	Shrub	Full-Part	Wet, Med, Dry													
Solidago speciosa	Showy goldenrod	Herb. perenn.	Part	Med													
Baptisia tinctoria	Yellow wild indigo	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med, Dry													
Cephalanthus occidentalis	Common buttonbush	Shrub	Full-Part	Wet, Med													
Chamerion angustifolium	Narrow-leaved fireweed	Herb. perenn.	Full	Med, Dry													
Chelone glabra	White turtlehead	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med													
Cirsium discolor	Field thistle	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry													

Cirsium horridulum	Yellow thistle	Herb. perenn.	Full	Med, Dry
Cirsium muticum	Swamp thistle	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med
Cirsium pumilum	Pasture thistle	Herb. perenn.	Full	Med, Dry
Diervilla lonicera	Northern bush honeysuckle	Shrub	Full-Shade	Dry, Med
Desmodium canadense	Showy tick trefoil	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry
Agastache scrophulariaefolia	Purple giant hyssop	Herb. perenn.	Sun, Shade	Dry, Med, Wet
Gentiana clausa	Closed gentian	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med
Impatiens capensis	Spotted touch me not	Annual	Full-Part	Wet, Med
Lobelia siphilitica	Blue lobelia	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med
Lupinus perennis	Wild lupine	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry
Mimulus alatus	Winged monkey-flower	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet- Med
Mimulus ringens	Allegheny monkey-flower	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med wet
Monarda fistulosa	Wild bergamot	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med, Dry
Monarda didyma	Scarlet bee balm	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med
Pedicularis canadensis	Wood betony	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med, Dry
Penstemon digitalis	Foxglove beardtongue	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med, Dry
Penstemon hirsutus	Northeastern beardtongue	Herb. perenn.	Full-Shade	Wet, Med, Dry
Pontederia cordata	Pickerelweed	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Aquatic
Physostegia virginiana	Obedient plant	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med
Prunella vulgaris	Common selfheal	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med
Scutellaria galericulata	Hooded skullcap	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med
Scutellaria lateriflora	Mad dog skullcap	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med
Stachys pilosa	Hairy hedge-nettle	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med
Vaccinium angustifolium	Lowbush blueberry	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry
Vaccinium corymbosum	Highbush blueberry	Shrub	Full-Shade	Wet, Med, Dry
Vaccinium fuscatum	Black highbush blueberry	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, wet
Vaccinium myrtilloides	Velvet-leaved blueberry	Shrub	Full-Shade	Med
Vaccinium oxycoccos	Small cranberry	Shrub	Full-Shade	Med, wet
Vaccinium pallidum	Hillside blueberry	shrub	Full-Shade	Wet, Med, Dry

Host plants (all regions)

BLOOM TIME: Early | Mid | Late — M A M J J A S O
BUMBLEBEES: B. terricola | B. fervidus | B. vagans
BUTTER FLIES | OTHER BEES

LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT TYPE	SUN	SOIL
Viola sororia	Common violet	Herb. perenn.	Full-Shade	Wet, Med, Dry
Viola pedata	Bird's foot violet	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry
Viola pedatifida	Prairie violet	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry
Viola sororia	Common Blue Violet	Herb. perenn.	Full-Shade	Wet, Med, Dry
Viola pubescens	Smooth Yellow Violet	Herb. perenn.	Part	Wet, Med, Dry
Viola striata	Cream Violet	Herb. perenn.	Part, Shade	Wet, Med, Dry
Baptisia tinctoria	Small Yellow Wild Indigo	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med, Dry
Doellingeria umbellate	Flat topped aster	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med
Rumex spp.	Water dock	Herb. perenn.		
Vaccinium macrocarpon	Cranberry	trailing shrub	Part	Wet
Quercus spp.	Oak	Tree		
Juniperus virginiana	Eastern red cedar	Tree	Full-Shade	Dry
Ribes spp.	Gooseberry	Herb. perenn.	Full-Shade	Wet, Med, Dry
Cardamine spp.	Bitter-cress	Herb. perenn.		
Fagus grandifolia	American Beech	Tree	Shade, Part	Med
Carex stricta	Tussock sedge	Grass	Part-Full	Wet, Med
Andropogon gerardii	Big bluestem	Grass	Full	Med, Dry
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little bluestem	Grass	Part-Full	Med, Dry
Panicum virgatum	Switch grass	Grass	Part-Full	Wet, Med
Poa pratensis	Kentucky bluegrass	Grass	Full	Wet, Med
Sorghastrum nutans	Indiangrass	Grass	Full-Shade	Wet, Med
Chasmanthium latifolia	Indian woodoats grass	Grass	Full-Part	Wet, Med
Eragrostis spp.	Lovegrass	Grass	Full	Med, Dry
Agrostis perennans	Bentgrass	Grass	Part	Wet
Danthonia spicata	Poverty grass	Grass	Full-Part	Dry
Calamagrostis canadensis	Reed grass	Grass	Full-Shade	Wet, Med
Bromus spp.	Brome	Grass	Full	Med

See accompanying table for species present in your region

Nectar/pollen - butterfiles and other bees at risk					BLOOM TIME								BUMBLEBEES			BUTTER FLIES	OTHER BEES
LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT TYPE	SUN	SOIL	Early			Mid		Late			B. terricola	B. fervidus	B. vagans		
					M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O					
Zizia aurea	Golden alexander	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med													
Zizia aptera	Meadow zizia	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med													
Geranium maculatum	Wild geranium	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med													
Lysimachia spp.	Loosestrife	Herb. perenn.	Part-Shade	Wet- Med													
Cardamine spp.	Bitter-cress	Herb. perenn.	Part	Wet- Med													
Solidago altissima	Tall goldenrod	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Solidago arguta	Forest goldenrod	Herb. perenn.	Part	Med, Dry													
Solidago gigantea	Smooth goldenrod	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Wet, Med													
Solidago juncea	**Early goldenrod**	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Solidago odora	Sweet goldenrod	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Solidago rugosa	Rough-stemmed goldenrod	Herb. perenn.	Full-Part	Med													
Rubus alleghenlensis	Common blackberry	Shrub	Full-Part	Med													
Rubus canadensis	Smooth blackberry	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Rubus flagellaris	Northern blackberry	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Rubus pensilvanicus	Pennsylvania blackberry	Shrub	Full-Part	Med, Dry													
Hydrophyllum virginianum	Virginia waterleaf	Herb. perenn.	Part-Shade	Med													

Thank you to Amy Meltzer for help with compiling plant information!

Gardening for Native Pollinators



...it differs from traditional gardening

Plant Selection

Some native plants help declining pollinators better than others, because they have co-evolved over millennia.

Choose an assortment of native plants that vary in color and shape and that collectively bloom all season long. Include native, early-blooming shrubs in your yard to give pollinators the best start when they emerge in spring.

Make sure to choose straight species and not cultivars. Cultivars do not provide the necessary nutrients for pollinators. How can you tell if a plant is a cultivar? Cultivars typically have an additional pretty name in quotation marks after the Latin name.

Do not purchase plants that have been treated with neonicotinoids. The only way to know is to ask the nursery staff.


Carolina rose


White turtlehead


Butterfly milkweed


Pussy willow

For guidance, plant lists, and additional information, visit:
www.svtweb.org/gardens

Maintenance

Pollinators need more than flowers.

They also need shelter, which they find in places you might not expect, such as holes in the ground, garden debris, and hollow stems.

To promote essential habitat for pollinators, allow some areas of your garden to be less formal and a little "messy." Leave the leaves, don't remove dead stems, and don't clean up in the spring until after mid-May.

Eliminate or reduce the use of pesticides.


Dead wood


Hollow stems


Bare ground


Leaf litter

Native Pollinator Task Force

A working group of the Metrowest Conservation Alliance

www.svtweb.org/mca-nptf

The NPTF seeks to conserve native pollination systems by providing specific habitat requirements and by reducing threats for at-risk pollinators in the 36 communities of the Metrowest Conservation Alliance (MCA).

SVT
Sudbury Valley Trustees

www.svtweb.org

Sudbury Valley Trustees is a nonprofit land trust that conserves natural areas and farmland in the 36 communities surrounding the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers. SVT is the coordinator for the MCA.

Why Save Native Pollinators?

Plants need pollination to reproduce, and their successful pollination relies upon a group of animals known as "pollinators."

While gathering nectar and pollen, insects transfer the male parts of one flower to the female parts of another of the same species. Then, a fertilized seed can grow into a new plant.

This process keeps the environment healthy. In Massachusetts, about 75% of flowering plants rely on animals for pollination. Imagine what missing 75% of our flowering plants would look like, and imagine how many birds, deer, and other animals use these plants as food and habitat.

Nature is like a web where everything is connected. If pollinators disappear, almost everything else will follow suit.

Despite the important service pollinators provide, they have not received the protection they deserve. Over the last two decades, pollinator populations have been dropping. The primary reason? Loss of habitat. The plants where insects eat, shelter, and lay their eggs have been crowded out by development and non-native invasive plants.

But all it takes to turn this trend around is a little yard space and some gardening tools.

Any garden has the potential to be a haven for declining pollinators like the golden northern and the half-black bumble bee.

The opposite side of this sheet offers tips for how you can turn your garden into healthy habitat for pollinators.

Honeybees Are Not Native Pollinators

Honeybees, which are often used to pollinate agricultural crops, are not native to North America. They were imported from Europe and are not part of our environment's natural web.

The job of pollinating the wild plants that sustain our natural environment falls to native bees and other native insects.

Some research has shown that honeybees can harm our native bees because they are aggressive and can spread diseases. Other research has shown that native bees can pollinate food crops more efficiently than honeybees.

The NPTF encourages you to take steps to help our native bees, many of which are declining in population.

Brown-Belted Bumble Bee
(native)

Honey Bee
(non native)