



Shade Cul de Sac for Pollinators

These plants were selected for their propensity for shade, and for their pollinator value.

Spicebush* (*Lindera benzoin*)

This aromatic shrub's flowers feed bees; female bushes have red berries. Spicebush swallowtail caterpillars eat the leaves, which turn a lovely yellow in autumn.

SB

5 plants

Eastern Bottlebrush Grass* (*Elymus hystrix*)

With graceful and distinctive flowers and seedheads, this grass feeds caterpillars of northern pearly eye butterflies and several moth species.

BG

15 plants

Golden Alexander* (*Zizia aurea*)

Flat-topped clusters of tiny yellow flowers in late spring provide pollen for specialist bees. Leaves host caterpillars of black swallowtail butterflies.

GA

32 plants

Great Blue Lobelia* (*Lobelia siphilitica*)

Striking blue flower spikes entice hummingbirds, butterflies, bumblebees, and many other native bees in summer. It is a host plant for many moth species.

GBL

15 plants

Wild Bergamot* (*Monarda fistulosa*)

Hummingbirds, moths, bumblebees, monarchs, swallowtails, skippers and many others share space on the abundant flowers of this prolific reseeder.

WB

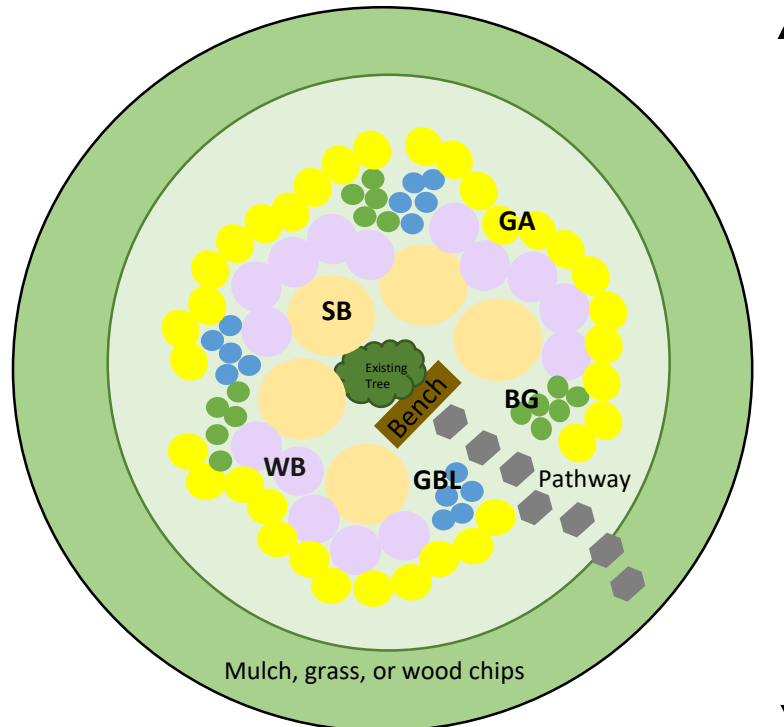
15 plants



* Deer-resistant, resists or withstands some browsing.

Note: Plants in this design are spaced according to their mature size. General guidance is to plant herbaceous plants 1' on center and shrubs 4'-6' on center.

This design is flexible based on available space. To make this garden smaller, reduce the number of plants per species.



Featured Pollinator:
Spicebush Swallowtail
Papilio troilus

Spicebush swallowtail butterflies are black with blue/green markings, early-stage larvae camouflage as bird droppings. The caterpillars later transform into a brilliant, bright green color with large false "eyes." They spin silk around leaves to hide during the day and feed at night. Monardas and cardinal flowers are favorite nectar sources of the adult butterflies.

More Info on Bee City:

<https://livegreenhoward.com/land/pollinators/>



Alternates for selected species

The following plant species can be alternately combined to create a pollinator garden in shade or part-shade. For more information about native plants and other pollinator resources, visit: livegreenhoward.com/land/pollinators/



SB

Spicebush

Witch Hazel*
Hamamelis virginiana
Summersweet
Clethra alternifolia



EB

Eastern Bottlebrush*

Tufted Hairgrass
Deschampsia cespitosa
Appalachian Sedge
Carex appalachica



GA

Golden Alexander*

Zigzag Goldenrod
Solidago flexicaulis
Spiderwort
Tradescantia virginiana



GBL

Great Blue Lobelia

Blue Mistflower*
Conoclinium coelestinum
White Wood Aster*
Eurybia divaricata



WB

Wild Bergamot*

Hoary mountain mint*
Pycnanthemum incanum
Woodland Sunflower
Helianthus divaricata

Maintenance & Stewardship Tips

HELP PLANTS GET ESTABLISHED

Mulch 2-3" until plants fill in; then allow fallen leaves to remain in place as mulch. Plant vigorous native groundcovers to suppress germination of invasives. Weed early and often during plant establishment, usually the first three years. Identify water source for supplemental irrigation as needed. Plant more shrubs if maintenance time is limited.

PROTECT PLANTS FROM HERBIVORY

Know your herbivory risk, and prioritize known deer-resilient plants. Consider caging/fencing for young trees and shrubs if you notice herbivory; cages can be removed once plants have grown tall enough.

MAKE IT A COMMUNITY AFFAIR

Create maintenance plan that includes pictures of plants to help neighbors learn and recognize species. Create and install educational signage. Add a walking path through the garden for easier access and enjoyment.

How to Welcome Pollinators

SPREAD THE WORD: NATIVE BEES ARE GENTLE!

Most native bees are solitary nesters. Unlike honeybees, they have no hives to defend and therefore no reason to sting. Many live among us already but are so tiny we often don't see them!

PROVIDE SHELTER & BEAUTY AT THE SAME TIME

Many pollinators nest and overwinter in the ground, among fallen leaves and in dead wood. Get creative: Line the pathway with logs or add an upright piece of tree trunk as a sculptural piece in the garden.

PLANT DIVERSELY AND IN MASSES

Plant a succession of seasonal blooms of different shapes and colors. Create large drifts that will be noticed by pollinators. Choose native species over cultivars when possible.

Photo Credits:

<https://tinyurl.com/y9hvgu2n>

