

GARDENING FOR BIRDS, BEES & BUTTERFLIES



RESOURCES

Web-based

Native Plant Nurseries in Ontario

[Halton Region Master Gardeners List of Native Plant Nurseries in Southern Ontario 2024](#)

[NANPS List of Native Plant Nurseries & Seed Suppliers](#)

Lists of Native Plants

[Canplant Native Plant Database](#)

[Carolinian Canada List of Native Butterfly Host and Nectar Plants](#)

[Keystone Plant List for Eastern Temperate Forests](#)

[Pollinator Partnership Ecoregional Planting Guides](#)

Creating Wildlife Habitat

[Canadian Wildlife Federation Gardening for Wildlife](#)

[In Our Nature 9 Principles of Natural Garden Design](#)

[Toronto Master Gardeners Pollinator Garden Guide](#)

[TRCA Maintaining Your Pollinator Habitat](#)

[Xerces Habitat Assessment Guide](#)

Organizations

[Canadian Wildlife Federation](#)

[Invasive Species Centre Invasive Plants](#)

[Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Finder](#)

[North American Native Plant Society](#)

[Ontario Invasive Plants Council Grow Me Instead Brochures](#)

[Toronto Botanical Garden Library](#)

[Toronto Master Gardeners](#)

[Xerces Society](#)

Books

Identification & Field Guides

Farrar, John Laird, *Trees in Canada*, Fitzhenry & Whiteside, reprinted 2020.

Foster, Leslie Proctor, Ken Fry & Doug MacCaulay, *Garden Bugs of Ontario*, Lone Pine, 2008.

Newcomb, Lawrence, *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide*, Little, Brown & Company, reprinted 1989.

Holm, Heather, *Pollinators of Native Plants*, Pollination Press, 2014.

Niering, William A. & Nancy C. Olmstead, *The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Wildflowers, Eastern Region, Revised Edition*, Alfred A. Knopf, 2001.

Gardening with Native Plants

Darke, Rick & Douglas Tallamy, *The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty & Biodiversity in the Home Garden*, Timber Press, 2014.

Gray, Rick & Shaun Booth, *The Gardener's Guide to Native Plants of the Southern Great Lakes Region*, Firefly Books, 2024.

Johnson, Lorraine & Sheila Colla, *A Garden for The Rusty-Patched Bumblebee – Ontario & Great Lakes Edition*, Douglas & McIntyre, 2022.

Johnson, Lorraine, *Grow Wild!*, Random House Canada, 1998.

Johnson, Lorraine, *100 Easy-to-Grow Native Plants for Canadian Gardens, Updated*, Whitecap Books, 2005.

Vogt, Benjamin, *Prairie Up*, 3 Fields Books, 2023.

General

Tallamy, Douglas W., *Bringing Nature Home*, Timber Press, 2007.

Tallamy, Douglas W., *Nature's Best Hope*, Timber Press, 2019.

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KEYSTONE PLANTS *Based on lists from Entomologist Douglas Tallamy and Pollinator Conservationist Jarrod Fowler

Plant Type	Plant Genus	Common Species (not all encompassing)	Host Plant for Caterpillar Species	Host Plant for Pollen Specialist Bees
Trees	Oak (<i>Quercus</i>)	Red Oak (<i>Quercus rubra</i>), White oak (<i>Quercus alba</i>)	436 butterflies/moths	
	Plum/Cherry (<i>Prunus</i>)	American plum (<i>Prunus americana</i>), Black cherry (<i>Prunus serotina</i>), Chokecherry (<i>Prunus virginiana</i>)	340 butterflies/moths	
	Poplar (<i>Populus</i>)	Eastern cottonwood (<i>Populus deltoides</i>)	249 butterflies/moths	
	Maple (<i>Acer</i>)	Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>), Silver maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>), Sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>)	238 butterflies/moths	
	Pine (<i>Pinus</i>)	Pitch pine (<i>Pinus rigida</i>), Eastern white pine (<i>Pinus strobus</i>)	200 butterflies/moths	
Shrubs	Blueberry (<i>Vaccinium</i>)	Lowbush blueberry (<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>), Northern Highbush blueberry (<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>)	217 butterflies/moths	14 bee species
	Blackberry/Raspberry (<i>Rubus</i>)	Black raspberry (<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>), Flowering raspberry (<i>Rubus odoratus</i>)	127 butterflies/moths	
	Dogwood (<i>Cornus</i>)	Alternate-leaf dogwood (<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>), Red osier dogwood (<i>Cornus sericea</i>)	98 butterflies/moths	
	Willow (<i>Salix</i>)	Pussy willow (<i>Salix discolor</i>), Sandbar willow (<i>Salix interior</i>)	289 butterflies/moths	14 bee species
Wildflowers	Goldenrod (<i>Solidago</i>)	Blue-stemmed goldenrod (<i>Solidago caesia</i>), Gray goldenrod (<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>), Showy goldenrod (<i>Solidago speciosa</i>), Stiff goldenrod (<i>Solidago rigida</i>), Zigzag goldenrod (<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>)	104 butterflies/moths	42 bee species
	Aster (<i>Symphyotricum</i>)	Blue wood aster (<i>Symphyotricum cordifolium</i>), New England aster (<i>Symphyotricum novae-angliae</i>), Smooth aster (<i>Symphyotricum laeve</i>)	100 butterflies/moths	33 bee species
	Sunflower (<i>Helianthus</i>)	Woodland sunflower (<i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>)	66 butterflies/moths	50 bee species
	Rudbeckia (<i>Rudbeckia</i>)	Black-eyed Susan (<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>), Green-headed coneflower (<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>)	20 butterflies/moths	29 bee species
	Coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis</i>)	Lance-leaved coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>), Tall coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>)	7 butterflies/moths	22 bee species