

Pollinator Plant Palette

SPRING



Beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)

Native to the northeastern U.S., this plant flowers after early spring ephemerals like bulbs but before summer bloomers, helping bridge the gap between seasonal flowerings.



Coral Bells (*Heuchera species*)

A northeastern U.S. native known for its colorful foliage, Coral Bells also produce delicate flowers that attract small native bees. Excellent for shaded gardens and border plantings.

SUMMER



Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

Native to central and eastern North America, this sunflower family plant is valued both ornamentally and medicinally. What appears as a single bloom is actually a dense cluster of ray and disk florets that provide abundant nectar for pollinators.



Anise Hyssop (*Agastache species*)

The cultivar 'Blue Fortune' is a sterile hybrid between the North American native *A. foeniculum* and the Asian *A. rugosa*. Because it doesn't go to seed, it blooms for an extended period, offering a long-lasting nectar source often swarmed by bees.



Beebalm (*Monarda species*)

Native to North America, this aromatic herb includes species like *M. didyma* and *M. fistulosa*, along with many horticultural hybrids. Its colorful, edible flowers are beloved by bees and hummingbirds.



Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

A native of eastern and central North America, this bright orange milkweed is best known as a host for Monarch butterfly caterpillars. Its nectar also attracts bees and other pollinators.

FALL

Asters

(Symphyotrichum novi-belgii, S. novae-angliae)

Native to the northeastern U.S., these asters provide a profusion of blooms in late summer and fall, serving as a vital food source for bees and butterflies during the season's end.



Goldenrods

(Solidago species)

Widespread across the northeastern U.S., goldenrods offer abundant yellow blooms that are critical for late-season pollinators. Despite common misconceptions, they do not cause allergies.



Sedum

(Hylotelephium spectabile)

Originally native to Asia, this drought-tolerant succulent provides nectar when few other plants are flowering, making it an excellent late-season food source for bees.



Bluebeard

(Caryopteris x clandonensis)

A small shrub hybridized from two Asian species, Bluebeard blooms very late in the season, offering one of the last available nectar sources for pollinators. Its flowers are frequently covered in bees.



Our horticultural experts have curated this list of flowering plants that bees love. They provide nectar and pollen across seasons, ensuring that pollinator habitats are healthy and active. The palette includes both native and non-native species, all chosen for their value as food sources for bees.