

## **Eatontown Pollinator Garden Challenge - Helpful Tips**

Pollinators include bats, bees, beetles, butterflies, hummingbirds, moths and wasps. Here's a list of things you can incorporate to turn your garden into a paradise for pollinators.

### **Food for Pollinators**

- Early bloomers (American chives, candytuft, crocus, dandelions, clovers, heath, penstemons)
- Summer bloomers (Asters, bee balm, cosmos, herbs, milkweed, salvias, sedum, zinnias)
- Late bloomers (New England aster, golden rod, hyssop, mountain mint, narrowleaf sunflower)
- Flowers with a variety of shapes & sizes (tubular, umbel)
- Flowers with a variety of colors
- Plant in masses for easier foraging

### **Water**

- Shallow dish of water with safe sipping perch
- Puddles
- Natural source of water (pond, stream, etc.) nearby

### **Shelter**

- Native wildflowers, grasses, shrubs and trees
- Evergreens
- Brush or rock pile, logs, fallen branches
- Locate flowers in sunny spot that is sheltered from the wind
- Leave sunny patches of bare, loose soil for ground nesting bees
- Provide nesting material by delaying garden cleanup until Spring
- Leave leaf litter in beds for insects to use for overwintering

### **Hosts for Butterflies & Moths**

- Milkweed (Common, swamp, butterfly weed)
- Asters, beebalm, clovers, columbine, indigo, lupines, mustards.
- Carrots, parsley, cilantro, dill, fennel, rue
- The following site has a list of host plants for New Jersey:  
[https://www.naba.org/chapters/nabanj/Butterfly\\_Caterpillar\\_Host\\_Plants\\_for\\_New\\_Jersey\\_Gardens.pdf](https://www.naba.org/chapters/nabanj/Butterfly_Caterpillar_Host_Plants_for_New_Jersey_Gardens.pdf)

### **Friendly and Sustainable Practices**

- Zero use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides
- Zero purchases of plants treated with neonicotinoids
- Compost kitchen and garden waste
- Favor native, heirloom plants
- Remove invasive species
- Include drought tolerant plants