



Rusty Patched Bumblebee

Photo by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Make your yard bee-friendly

An ideal pollinator landscape provides abundant food sources and nesting habitats. To help pollinators like the rusty patched bumblebee, plant pollinator-friendly plants, minimize pesticide use, and maintain undisturbed areas.

Plant	Bloom Period
Large beardtounge	Early
Wild geranium	Early-Mid Summer
Purple Prairie Clover	Mid Summer
Black Eyed Susan	Mid Summer
Butterfly Milkweed	Mid Summer
Bee Balm	Mid-Late Summer
Prairie Blazing Star	Mid-Late Summer
Giant Hyssop	Mid-Late Summer
Little Bluestem	Late Summer
Sky Blue Aster	Late Summer



Photos by Heather Holm

Minimize Pesticide Use for Pollinator Health

- Identify and understand pests and beneficial insects.
- Accept some insect damage on plants.
- Use pesticides only when necessary.
- Look for the pollinator protection box on insecticide labels and follow the label exactly. The label is the law.
- Apply when bees are not foraging (early morning or evening, or when air temperatures are below 55° F).
- Prevent drift when applying pesticides.

Undisturbed Areas are Ideal for Pollinator Nesting

- Avoid disturbing areas where pollinator activity is already present.
- Leave downed logs, clumps of grasses, leaf litter, flower stems, and bare spots to provide nesting and overwintering habitat for pollinators.

Additional Resources

www.mda.state.mn.us/pollinatorbmps

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8/2019



Photo by Johanna James