Planting for Pollinators

Courtesy of Pepperell Garden Club

These plants are some proven winners for attracting a variety of pollinators to your home garden. Consider color and flower shape preference of the pollinators you want to attract. Plant your flowers in clumps, and provide shelter, water, host plants and nesting sites, and a yard free of insecticides and pesticides.				Tubular, or flat shallow flowers with a landing platform in blue, purple, yellow or bright white	Umbrella shaped flowers with many nectar tubes, or large petals in white, pink, red, purple, yellow and orange	Tubular flowers in rich bright shades of red, purple, deep pink, blue
Plant	Color	Part Shade	Sun	Bees	Butterflies	Hummingbirds
Annuals & Biennials						
Borage	Blue		Χ	Х	Χ	Х
Cosmos	Various		Χ	Х	Χ	
Fuschia	Various	Х	Χ	Х		X
Marigolds, single	Yellow/Orange		Χ	Х	Χ	
Petunia	Various		Χ	Х	Χ	X
Russian sage	Purple		Χ	Х		Х
Salvia	Various	Х	Χ	Х	Χ	Х
Verbena	Various	Х	Χ	Х	Х	Х
Zinnia	Various		X	X	X	
Annual Herbs	Various		X	X	X	
Perennials						
Asters	Purple	Х	Х	Х	X	Х
Astilbe	Various	X	Λ	X		^
Bee Balm	Various	X	Х	X	X	X
Black eye Susan	Yellow/Orange		X	X	Λ	Λ
Bleeding Heart	Pink/White	Х		X	X	Х
Bugleweed, Ajuga	Various	X	Х	X		X
Butterfly weed	Orange	^	X	X	X	X
Cardinal Flower	Red	X	^	X	X	X
Columbine	Various	X	Х	X		X
Coneflower	Various	^	X	X		^
Coreopsis, Tickseed	Various		X	X		
Daisy	White		X	Λ	X	
Foxglove	Various	Х	X	Х		X
Globe thistle	Purple	^	X	X	Χ	^
Goldenrod	Yellow/Orange	Х	X	X	X	
Heathers	Purple/Pink	^	X	X	X	
Herbs	Various	+	X	X	X	X
Heuchera, Coral bells	Various	X	X	X	X	X
Hyssop, Agastache	Purple	^	X	X	X	X
Joe Pye Weed	Purple	Х	X	X	X	X
Lambs ears	Purple	^	X	X	X	^
Liatris	Purple		X	X	X	Х
Lupine	Purple		X	X	Λ	X
Milkweed, common	Purple		X	X	X	X
Salvia	Various		X	X	X	X
Sunflowers	Yellow/Orange		X	X	X	^
Swamp Milkweed	Magenta		X	X	X	
Yarrow	Various		X	X	X	
Shrubs	various		^	^	^	
	Various	X	Х	X	X	X
Azaela	Various	۸	X	X	۸	^
Blueberry	White	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-
Clethra, Sweet Pepperbu		X	X	X	X	V
Elderberry	White	X	X	X	X	X
Lilac	Various	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	X	X	X	X
Rhododendrons	Various	X	Х	Х	X	X
Vines						
Trumper Creeper	Orange		X	X		X
Trumpet Honeysuckle	Red/Yellow		Χ	X	Χ	X

Butterfly Bush Note: Gardeners who want to attract butterflies to their garden often plant butterfly bush (*Buddleia*). While this shrub is easy to grow and does attract butterflies, it's not a good choice for a butterfly garden. It is a highly invasive exotic plant that crowds out native plants and some states now prohibit the sale of butterfly bush. While it does provide nectar, it offers no value for larvae. It spreads easily because it produces thousands of seeds each year. If you do grow this plant, deadhead the flowers each year as soon as the blooms are spent so it does not go to seed.