

# VT Pollinator Habitat Enhancement - Mostly Native Plants

Developed by Jane Sorensen,  
Northeast Pollinator Plants/River Berry Farm, VT

Plant Name	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Sun/S	Value	Bee	But	Hun	Host	Notes	
	<i>Info. Source: Xerces, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, USDA Pla</i>												
<b>PERENNIALS for Gardens long-lasting, minimal spreading and reseeding</b>													
Asaraum canadense	.5'-1'	wild ginger					sun/part	X			X	ground cover	
Fragaria virginiana	4"-6"		fruit	wild strawberry			sun/par	X	X		X	tasty ground cov.	
Potentilla canadensis	2"-4" short!!	cinquefoil					sun/par	X	X		X	short, vining stem	
Penstemon digitalis	3'-5'	beardtongue					sun	X	X	X		clump, butt mag.	
Geranium maculatum		1'-1.5'	cranesbill				sun/par	X	X			some self-seeding	
Tradescantia virginiana		1.5'-3'	virginia spiderwort				par/sha	X	X			moist, shade	
Coreopsis lanceolata		1'-2'	coreopsis				sun	X	X			a bit short-lived	
Hedysarum alpinum		1.5'-2'	alpine sweetvetch				sun/sha	X	X			toxic seeds, fix.N	
Monarda punctata		1.5'-2'	spotted beebalm				sun/par	X	X	X		spreads but value	
Oenothera pilosella		1'-2'	meadow evening primro				sun	X				mat-form, spread	
Penstemon hirsutus		1.5'-2'	hairy beardtongue				sun/sha	X	X	X	X	some self-seeding	
Ratibida pinnata		3'-5'	yellow coneflower				sun	X	X			some self-seeding	
Echinacea purpurea		2'-5'	purple coneflower				sun/par	X	X	X		a bit short-lived	
Baptisia australis		4.5'-5.5'	blue wild indigo				sun/par	X				love this	
Asclepias tuberosa		2.5'-3'	butterflywee				sun/par	X	X		X	bright color	
Dalea purpurea		1'-3'	prairie clove				sun	X				some self-seeding	
Veronicastrum virginicum		culver's root	4'-7'				sun	X	X			long flowering	
Hypericum ascyron		greatst. Johnswort	3'-5'				sun	X			X	spreading..	
Liatris spicata		blazing star	2'-4'				sun	X	X	X		nice cut too	
Lobelia siphilitica		great blue lobelia	2'-3'				sun/par	X	X	X		hard to germ?	
Monarda didyma		scarlet beebalm	2'-4'				sun/par	X	X	X		spreads but value	
Oenothera perennis		little evening primrose	.5'-2'				sun	X	X	X	X	spreads, easy pull	
Eupatiadelphus maculatum		joe-pye weed	3'-6'				sun/par	X	X			common, valuable	
Eutrochium purpureum		sweet joe-pye weed	5'-7'				sun/par	X	X			tolerates moister	
Agastache foeniculum		anise hyssop	3'-5'				sun/par	X	X	X		great plant	
Monarda fistulosa		wild bergamot	2'-4'				sun/par	X	X	X		spreads but value	
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium		slender mountain mint	2'-3'				sun/par	X	X			spreads but value	
Senna hebecarpa		wild senna	3'-7'				sun/par	X	X	X	X	some self-seeding	
Helenium autumnale		sneezeweed	3'-5'				sun	X	X			statuesque	
Helianthus giganteus		giant sunflower	5'-10'				sun	X				loose, tall	
Liatris apsera		rough blazing star	2'-3'				sun	X	X	X	X	slow spreading	
Vernonia noveboracensis		new york ironweed	4'-6'				sun	X	X			borderline hardy	
Chelone glabra		white turtlehead	2'-3'				sun/sha		X	X	X	can do shade	
Eupatorium perfoliatum		common boneset	4'-6'				sun/par	X	X			common, valuable	
Symphotrichum novae-angliae		new england aster	3'-6'				sun	X	X		X	great late color	
Symphotrichum laeve		smooth blue aster	2'-4'				sun	X	X			great late color	
Synphyotrichum novi-belgii		new york aster	3'-4'				sun	X	X		X	great late color	
Gentiana andrewsii		bottle gentian	1'-2'				part sun	X				part-shade	





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<i>Info. Source: Xerces, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, USDA Plant Database</i>												
<b>SHRUBS for Pollinator Habitat Enhancement</b>												
Ceanothus americanus	3'-4'	new jersey tea				par/shd	X	X		X		use this!!
Salix species	varies	native willows				sun/sha	X	X		X		valuable, use
Sheperdia canadensis	4'-6'	russet buffaloberry				sun/sha	X					nice enough
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	.6'-1'	kinnikinnick				sun/par	X	X		X		grd. Cover
Rosa species (not multiflora)	varies	native roses				sun/sha	X					bees/berries/birds
Lindera benzoin	6'-12'	spicebush				sun/part		X		X		big butterfly mag.
Rbes americanum	3'-6'	wild black currant				sun/par	X					bees/berries/birds
Ribes (gooseberry)	2'-5'	gooseberry				sun/sha	X					cool fruit
Rhododendron canadense	1'-4'	rhodora				sun/par	X	X	X			flower, rough plant
Viburnum opulus	8'-12'	european cranberrybush				sun/par	X	X				not native but bee
Physocarpus opulifolius	5'-8'	common ninebark				sun/par	X					great in garden
Rhus aromatica	5'-12'	fragrant sumac				sun/sha	X	X		X		try 'Gro-Lo" cutl
Rubus species	varies	native raspberry, blackberry, dewberry				sun/sha	X	X				great for all
Cornus sericea		7'-9'	redosier dogwood			part		X		X		nice stem color
Vaccinium angustifolium		.5'-2'	low-bush blueberry			sun/sha	X					low-bush blueberry
Vaccinium corymbosum		6'-12'	high-bush blueberry			sun/sha	X					highbush blueberry
Ribes tirste		1.5'-3'	swamp red currant			sun/sha	X					for wet
Symphoricarpos orbiculatus		2'-5'	coralberry			sun/par	X					bees/berries/birds
Viburnum dentatum		6'-8'	arrowwood viburnum			sun/sha	X	X		X		lots going for it
Amorpha fruticosa			6'-10'	false indigo bush		sun/par	X	X		X		fine texture
Rhododendron maximum			4'-15'	wild rhododendron		part	X					warm microclimate.
Rhus glabra			9'-15'	smooth sumac		sun/par	X	X		X		thicket
Rhus typhina			15'-25'	staghorn sumac		sun/par	X					thicket
Vaccinium vitum-idaea			.5'-1.5'	lignonberry		sun/sha	X					bees/berries/birds
Sambucus racemosa			10'-18'	red-berried elderberry		sun/par	X					bees/berries/birds
Vaccinium macrocarpon			.5-1"	cranberry		part	X					bees/berries/birds
Spiraea alba			3'-4'	meadowsweet		sun/sha	X	X		X		moist, long bloom
Clethra alnifolia		summersweet		6'-12'		sun/sha	X	X	X	X		use this!!
Diervilla lonicera		north bush-honeysuckle		1'-3'		part/sh	X					nice for shade
Spiraea tomentosa		steeplesh		3'-6'		sun/par	X	X		X		thicket
Daisphora fruticosa		shrubby cinquefoil		1'-4'		sun/par	X	X				long-flowering
Cephalanthus occidentalis		common buttonbush			3'-6'	sun/par	X	X		X		warm microclimate.
<b>VINES for Pollinator Habitat Enhancement</b>												
Aristolochia macrophylla	15'-30'	Dutchman's Pipe				sun/part	X			X		for porch, pipevine swallo.
Lonicera sempervirens		8'-15'	trumpet honeysuckle			sun/par	X	X	X	X		native, showy, use this!
Clematis virginiana			woodbine		12'-20'	sun/sha	X	X	X			aggressive spread/reseed

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<b>GRASSES for Gardens - long-lasting, minimal spreading and reseeding</b>										
Carex stricta		1'-3'	upright sedge				X		moist to in water	
Deschampsia cespitosa		1'-3'	tufted hair grass				X	X	medium to wet, alkaline	
Bromus kalmii		arctic brome 1'-3'					X		long-lasting seed head	
Sporobolus compositus		sand dropseed 3'-5'					X		Long blooming grass	
Bouteloua curtipendula		sideoats grama	1.5'-2.5'				X		nice fall foliage	
Panicum virgatum		switch grass	3'-6'					X	gorgeous plant, use it!	
Schizachyrium scoparium		little bluestem		2'-4'			X	X	gorgeous plant, use it!	
Sorghastrum nutans		indiangrass			3'-5'		X		Statuesque, great plant	
Andropogon gerardii		big bluestem			4'-6'		X	X	reseeds. cut winter	
<b>GRASSES for Naturalizing, Cottage Gardens and/or Meadows short-lived, vigorous spreading and/or reseeding</b>										
Koeleria macrantha		1'-2'	junegrass				X		short-lived, reseeds, nice	
Zizania aquatica		2'-8'	wild rice							
Tridens flavus		purpletop tridens		2.5'-7'			X		Part shade, massing	
<b>BEE LAWN: overseed lawn with clovers or replant with fescues and clovers, mow monthly at 3"-4". Source: Mary Meyer, U. of Minn.</b>										
Trifolium repens		.25'-.5	white dutch clover			sun/part	X		spread, bees love clover	
Trifolium hybridum			.5'-1.5'	alsike clover		sun/part	X		spread, bees love clover	
Festuca ovina, Festuca rubra and, Festuca brevipila - Fescue mix, good for less mowing						sun/part			mow monthly at 3"-4"	
Scilla siberica	.25'	siberian squill				sun/part	X		early flowering bulb	
Crocus sieberi Tricolor	.25'	sieber's crocus							early flowering bulb	
Thymus vulgaris (Zone 5-9)		2'-2.5'	english thyme			sun/part	X	X	in warm microclimate	
Prunella vulgaris			.5'-1'	self-heal		sun/part	X		self-heal, bees love	
<b>HERBS for Gardens, Containers and Beds - need to let flower for pollinators, generally native to Europe.</b>										
Allium schoenoprasum		1"-1.5'	chives			sun/part	X	X	perennial, long lasting	
Thymus vulgaris (Zone 5-9)		2'-2.5'	english thyme			sun/part	X	X	in warm microclimate	
Symphytum officinale	comfrey	3'-5'				sun/part	X	X	Tap root and spreading	
Nepeta faassenii	catmint	1'-2'				sun	X	X	great for massing, showy	
Salvia officinalis	common sage	2'-2.5'				sun/part	X	X	Keep some for the bees	
Origanum majorana	sweet marjoram	1'-2'				sun/part	X	X	grow as an annual	
Anethum graveolens	dill	1'-3'				sun/part	X	X	grow as an annual	
Borago officinalis	borage	2'-3'				sun	X	X	reseeds readily	
Foeniculum vulgare	fennel	4'-6'				sun	X	X	reseeds readily	
Lavandula spp. (Zone 5-7)	lavender	1'-3'				sun/part	X	X	in warm microclimate	
Melissa officinalis	lemon balm	1.5'-3'				sun/part	X	X	spreads, contain it	
Mentha spp.	mints	.5'-3'				sun/part	X	X	spreads, contain it	
Origanum vulgare	wild oregano		1'			sun/part	X	X	spreads, contain it	
Allium tuberosum	garlic chives			1'-2'		sun/part	X		garlicky taste, bees love.	
Angelica archangelica	garden angelica			4'-6'		sun/part	X	X	biennial, moist,	

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<b>Annuals for Gardens, Containers and Beds - non-native, but plentiful pollen or nectar to provide extra foraging.</b>													
Lobularia maritima	.25'-.75'		alyssum			sun/par	X					sweet smelling, bee mag.	
Salvia coccinea	1'-2'		salvia			sun/par	X	X	X			reseeds, nice plant	
Lantana camara	1'-2'		lantana			sun		X				butterflies will flock!!	
Zinnia spp.	.5'-2'		zinnia			sun	X	X				all colors, bees love	
Cuphea spp.	.5'-2'		wi			sun/par	X	X	X			hummingbirds!!!	
Dianthus spp.	.25'-1.5'		garden pinks			sun/par	X	X	X			easy, beautiful, attracts all	
Dimorphotheca (Osteospermum)	1'-1.5'		african daisy			sun/par	X	X				cool season flowers	
Centaurea cyanus	1'-3'		batchelor's buttons			sun	X	X				avoid invas. per., ann.YES	
Calendula officinalis	.5'-1.5'		calendula			sun	X	X				attracts beneficials	
Portulaca oleracea	.25'-.5'		portulaca			sun	X	X				hot dry sun, may colors	
Cleome hassleriana	1'-4'		cleome			sun	X	X	X			hot, dry sun,	
Dahlia spp.	1'-4'		dahlia			sun/par	X	X	X			lots of colors, easy to grow	
Tagetes	.5'-4'		marigold			sun		X	X			few bees but butt/hum yes	
Helianthus (NO treated seed)	.5'-8'		sunflowers			sun	X	X				hot, dry, sun, bees love!	
Amaranthus spp.	1'-7'		amaranthus			sun	X	X				showy back of border	
Tithonia rotundifolia	4'-6'		mexican sunflower			sun	X	X					
<b>NATIVE ANNUALS - tend to be very aggressive reseeder, plant one to have a colony, good for meadows.</b>													
Collinsia parviflora	.5'-1'		maiden blue-eyed mary			prt/shd	X					dainty, early flowers	
Clarkia pulchella	.5'-1.5'		deerhorn clarkia			sun	X					pretty in cottage garden	
Gilia capitata	2'-3'		blue gilia			sun	X	X				robust annual for dry	
Gaillardia pulchella	indian blank		1'-1.5'			sun	X	X				Great for annual beds	
Impatiens capensis	jewelweed		2'-5'			sun/par	X	X	X	X		Comon wild annual, wet!	
Chamaecrista fasciculata	partidge pea		1'-3'			sun	X	X		X		great as cover crop.	
Oenothera biennis	common evening primro		2'-6'			sun/shd	X	X				dry, short-lived, reseeds	
Bidens frondosa	common beggarticks		1'-3'			sun	X					bees loves, reseeds freely.	