

Native Pollinator Gardens



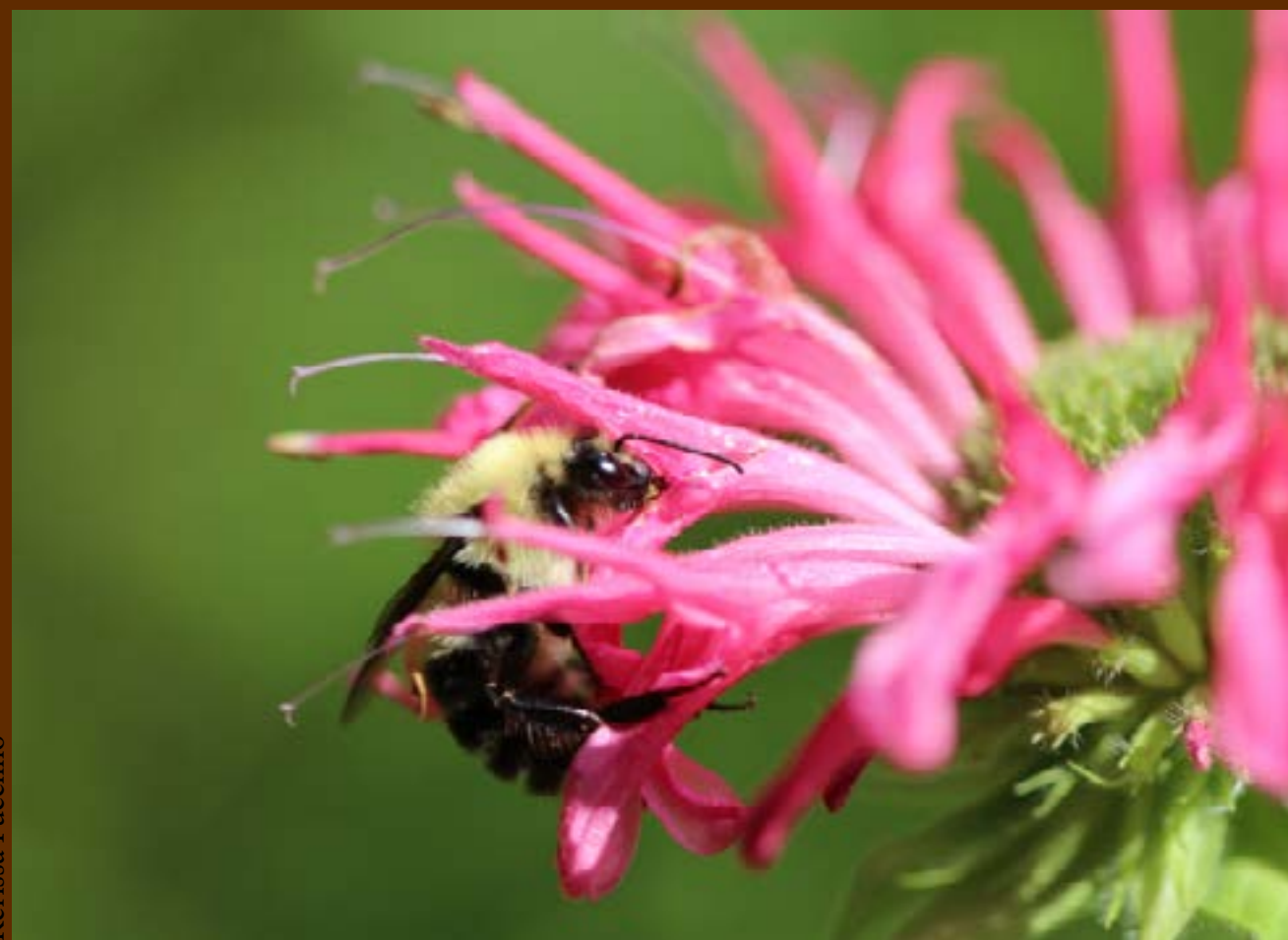
Seventy-five percent of the world's crops grown for food, fiber, and medicine depend on pollinators. Despite this dependence, humans directly contribute to the decline of pollinator populations, through habitat destruction and pesticide use.



Each garden is a habitat patch. The best habitat patches for pollinators are full of high nectar species like mints and asters. Plant species diversity is important, and we carefully selected several species of native flowering plants for our gardens.



Mowed lawns provide little food or shelter for pollinators. We turned this former lawn area into gardens of native flowering plants, creating a vibrant habitat for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other important pollinators.



We are creating nest sites and an array of pollinator habitats to support native pollinators like mason bees, bumblebees and Monarch butterflies. These gardens are used as teaching tools to illustrate ecosystem services and community action for conservation. Please visit our website to find resources for building pollinator habitat in your community.

How You Can Help

Ban pesticides from your garden. Pesticides kill beneficial insects as well as harmful ones.

Recognize and protect existing bee habitat. Unmown meadows, hollow logs and rock piles provide excellent nest sites.

Use native plants for gardens and landscaping. Native plants attract and provide food for native pollinators. Exotic or invasive plants often do not, which can threaten ecosystem health.

Create bee habitat like nest boxes or brush piles. Plant a native pollinator garden in your community.

Get involved! Count bees for the Great Sunflower Project. Monitor pollinator and plant phenology through the National Phenology Network. Join Monarch Watch.



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The Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) is one of eight Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management in New York State. Hosted by the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development in Arkville, CRISP promotes education, prevention, early detection and control of invasive species to limit their impact on the ecosystems and economies of the Catskills.

