



# SELECTING PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS



A GUIDE FOR GARDENERS, FARMERS, AND LAND MANAGERS IN THE



## ALGONQUIN- LAKE NIPISSING ECOREGION

SAULT STE. MARIE, ELLIOT LAKE,  
SUDBURY, NORTH BAY,  
PARRY SOUND, HUNTSVILLE,  
AND  
OTTAWA RIVER VALLEY AREA





Algonquin-Lake Nipissing includes:

- Sault Ste. Marie, Elliot Lake,
- Sudbury, North Bay,
- Mattawa, Parry Sound,
- Bracebridge, Gravenhurst
- Huntsville, Deep River,
- Minden, Bancroft,
- and Barry's Bay.



# PLANTS THAT ATTRACT POLLINATORS IN THE ALGONQUIN-LAKE NIPISSING

The following chart lists plants that attract pollinators. It is not exhaustive, but provides guidance on where to start. Annuals, herbs, weeds, and cover crops provide food and shelter for pollinators, too.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Colour	Flower Season	Sun	Soil Moisture	Pollinators	Also a host
<b>Trees and Shrubs</b>								
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	red maple	12-20m+	red, greenish, yellow	March - April	sun to partial shade	dry to wet	bees	X
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	sugar maple	12-20m+	red, greenish, yellow	March - April	sun to partial shade	dry to wet	bees	X
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	kinnikinnick	less than 1m	white, cream, pink	May - July	sun to partial shade	well drained to dry	hummingbirds, bees	X
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	black chokeberry	2m	white	May - June	sun to partial sun	dry to moist	bees, beetles, flies	X
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	alternatleaf dogwood	2-5.5m	white	April - July	sun to shade	dry to wet	bees, beetles, flies, butterflies	X
<i>Cornus rugosa</i>	roundleaf dogwood	1-3m	white, cream	May to June	partial shade to shade	dry to well drained	birds, butterflies, bees	X
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Red-osier Dogwood	1-3m	white	June-August	sun to partial shade	moist	bees, butterflies, flies	X
<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	northern bush-honeysuckle	up to 1m	yellow	June - July	sun to shade	dry to moist	bees, moths	X
<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>	eastern teaberry	less than 1m	white, cream	April - May	partial shade	well drained, dry to moist	birds	
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	eastern witch-hazel	3-4m	yellow-orange	September - November	sun to shade	moist	moths, beetles	X
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	northern spicebush	1-5m	yellow green	March - May	sun to shade	moist	bees, flies	X
<i>Prunus nigra</i>	Canada plum	less than 7m	white	March - May	sun	dry to drained	bees	
<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	pin cherry	7.5-12m	white	May - June	sun	dry to moist, well drained	bees	X
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	chokecherry	6m+	white	June	sun to partial sun	moist	bees	X
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	aromatic sumac	1.5-2m	yellow green	April - May	sun to partial shade	dry to moist, well drained	flies, bees	X
<i>Ribes triste</i>	red currant	1-3m	greenish white, white, pink, red	March - June	sun to shade	moist to dry, well drained	flie, beetles, bees	
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	red raspberry	less than 3m	white	June - August	sun to shade	moist to well drained	bees, flies	
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	sassafras	10-18m	yellow green	March - June	sun to partial shade	dry to wet	flies	X
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	snow berry	0.5-1.5m	pink	June - July	sun to partial sun	dry	bees	X
<i>Vaccinium macrocarpon</i>	cranberry	less than 1m	white to pink	April - June	sun to partial shade	dry to moist, well drained	bees	X
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	mapleleaved viburnum	up to 2m	white, cream	May - July	sun to shade	dry to moist, well drained	butterflies	X
<b>Forbs</b>								
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	common yarrow	less than 1m	white, cream, pink	June - August	sun	dry to well drained	butterflies	

<i>Botanical Name</i>	Common Name	Height	Colour	Flower Season	Sun	Soil Moisture	Pollinators	Also a host
<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	Canada anemone	less than 1m	white, cream	April-August	sun to shade	moist, well drained	bees	
<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	indian hemp	up to 2m	greenish pink	June - August	partial shade	moist to well drained	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	wild columbine	less than 1m	yellow, red	April-July	sun to partial shade	dry to moist, well drained	hummingbirds, butterflies, bees	X
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	red columbine	less than 1m	red with yellow	April - July	partial shade to sun	moist, well drained	hummingbirds, bees, moths	X
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	swamp milkweed	0.5-1.5m	purple, pink	June-August	sun	moist to wet	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Campanula gieseckeana</i>	harebell	less than 1m	blue, purple	June-September	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	hummingbirds	
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	fireweed	up to 2m	purple, pink	July-September	sun	dry to moist, well drained	hummingbirds, butterflies, bees	X
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	turtlehead	less than 1m	white, cream, pink	July-September	sun to shade	moist to wet	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	white turtlehead	less than 1m	white, cream, pink	July - September	sun to shade	moist to wet	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Cirsium discolor</i>	field thistle	up to 2m	purple, pink	June - September	sun	dry, well drained	butterflies	X
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	laceleaf tickseed	up to 1m	yellow	May - August	sun to partial sun	moist to dry	bees, butterflies	
<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i>	shrubby cinquefoil	0.5-1.5m	yellow, white, cream	June-September	sun	dry, well drained	butterflies, bees	
<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	showy tick trefoil	up to 2m	purple, pink	July - August	sun to partial shade	dry to moist, well drained	hummingbirds, bees	X
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	common boneset	1-1.5 m	white	July - September	sun	well drained to moist	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i>	spotted Joe pye weed	1-2m	pink, purple	July-September	sun to partial shade	wet to moist	bees, butterflies	X
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	wild strawberry	less than 1m	white	April - June	sun to partial shade	well drained to moist	bees, flies	
<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	jewelweed	0.5-1.5m	yellow, orange, greenish brown	July-October	partial shade to shade	moist to wet	hummingbirds, butterflies, bees	
<i>Iris versicolor</i>	wild blue iris	less than 1m	blue, purple	May-August	sun to partial shade	moist to wet	hummingbirds, bees	
<i>Lilium philadelphicum</i>	wood lily	less than 1m	red, orange	June-August	sun to partial shade	dry	hummingbirds	
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	cardinal flower	1-1.5m	red	August - October	sun to partial shade	moist to wet	bees, hummingbirds	
<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	great blue lobelia	0.5-1.5m	blue	August-September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet, well drained	hummingbirds, butterflies, bees	
<i>Lysimachia ciliata</i>	fringed loosestrife	0.5-1.5m	yellow	June-August	partial shade to shade	moist	bees	
<i>Mentha canadensis</i>	Canada mint	less than 1m	white to pink, violet	July-October	partial shade	moist to wet	bees	

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## IN THE ALGONQUIN-LAKE NIPISSING

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Colour	Flower Season	Sun	Soil Moisture	Pollinators	Also a host
<i>Monarda didyma</i>	beebalm	1-2m	scarlet red	July - September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet	hummingbirds, butterflies, bees	X
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	1m	lavendar pink to violet blue	July - September	sun to partial sun	moist	butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, wasps,	X
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	common evening primrose	up to 2m	yellow	July - October	sun to partial shade	well drained, dry to moist	butterflies, bees	
<i>Packera paupercula</i>	balsam ragwort	less than 1m	yellow	May-August	partial shade	moist	bees	
<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	mayapple	less than 1m	white	March - May	shade	moist to well drained	bees, beetles	
<i>Potentilla arguta</i>	tall cinquefoil	less than 1m	white, cream	June - September	sun	dry to well drained		
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed Susan	0.5-1.5m	yellow with dark brown center	June - September	sun to partial sun	moist to dry	bees, butterflies, beetles, wasps	X
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	cutleaf coneflower	1-3m	yellow, brown	June - September	sun to partial shade	moist to dry	bees, butterflies, beetles, wasps	X
<i>Sisyrinchium montanum</i>	strict blue-eyed grass	less than 1m	blue, purple	May - July	sun to shade	dry to wet, well drained		
<i>Solidago altissima</i>	late goldenrod	up to 2m	yellow	August - November	partial shade	moist	butterflies, bees	
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	0.5-1.5m	yellow, orange	July-October	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	butterflies, bees	
<i>Solidago juncea</i>	early goldenrod	0.5-1.5m	yellow	July-September	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	butterflies, bees	
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	grey goldenrod	1m	yellow	August-October	sun to partial shade	dry	butterflies, bees	
<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>	steeplebush	0.5-1.5m	purple, pink	July-September	sun to partial shade	moist	butterflies	X
<i>Symphyotrichum ciliolatum</i>	fringed blue aster	up to 1m	blue, purple	July-October	sun	dry, well drained	butterflies	X
<i>Symphyotrichum cordifolium</i>	heart-leaf aster	1-2m	white to purple	June - August	sun	moist	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Symphyotrichum ericoides</i>	heath aster	up to 1m	white, cream	August-October	sun	dry to moist, well drained	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Symphyotrichum laeve</i>	smooth blue aster	0.5-1.5m	blue, purple	August - November	sun	dry	butterflies	X
<i>Symphyotrichum lanceolatum</i>	Lance-leaved Aster	up to 1m	white, cream	September-October	sun	moist to wet	butterflies	X
<i>Symphyotrichum oolentangiense</i>	azure aster	up to 1m	blue to purple	September - November	sun to partial shade	dry to well drained	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Symphyotrichum puniceum</i>	purple-stemmed aster	1-2m	blue, purple	August-September	sun	moist to wet, well drained	butterflies, bees	X



Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Colour	Flower Season	Sun	Soil Moisture	Pollinators	Also a host
<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	up to 1m	purple	September - October	sun to partial shade	moist, well-drained	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	eastern skunk-cabbage	up to 1m	dark maroon	April - May	sun to shade	wet to flooded	beetles, flies	
<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	foamflower	less than 1m	white	April - May	sun to shade	moist	bees, flies, moths	
<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>	white trillium	less than 1m	white	May - June	partial sun	moist	beetles, flies, bees	
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	swamp verbena	up to 2m	blue, purple	June - September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet, well drained	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Verbena stricta</i>	hoary vervain	less than 1m	purple	July - September	sun	dry, drained to sandy	bees, butterflies	X
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden Alexanders	up to 1m	yellow	May - July	sun to partial sun	moist to wet	flies, bees	X
<b>Vines</b>								
<i>Campsis radicans</i>	trumpet creeper	up to 15m	orange-red	June - October	sun to partial sun	dry to moist	hummingbirds, bees	X
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	virgin's bower	3m+	white	July - August	sun to partial sun	moist	flies, bees	
<b>Shelter Plants</b>								
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	1-2.5m	yellow to brown	August - November	sun to partial shade	moist		
<i>Bromus kalmii</i>	arctic brome	up to 1m	yellow, greenish brown	June - August	sun to partial shade	dry, moist	butterflies	X
<i>Carex comosa</i>	longhair sedge	1.5m	greenish brown	May - July	sun to partial shade	moist to wet		
<i>Carex granularis</i>	limestone meadow sedge	up to 1m	greenish brown	May - June	sun to partial shade	dry to moist		
<i>Carex stipata</i>	awlfruit sedge	up to 1m	greenish brown	May - June	sun to partial shade	moist to wet		
<i>Carex stricta</i>	upright sedge	up to 1.5m	greenish brown	May - June	sun to partial shade	moist to wet		X
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada wildrye	up to 1.5m	yellow, green, brown	March - June	sun to partial shade	moist		
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	common rush	0.5-1.5m	greenish brown	July - September	sun	moist to wet		
<i>Juncus tenuis</i>	poverty rush	up to 1m	greenish brown	May - September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet, well drained		
<i>Juncus torreyi</i>	Torrey's rush	up to 1m	greenish brown	August - October	sun	moist		
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	switchgrass	up to 2m	purple, greenish brown, pink	July - September	sun	dry to moist, well drained		X
<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>	woolgrass	1-1.5m	greenish brown	July - September	sun to partial shade	wet		X
<i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>	sand dropseed	up to 1m	yellow	May - November	sun to partial shade	dry		