



# SELECTING PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS



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



## MANITOULIN- LAKE SIMCOE ECOREGION

MANITOULIN ISLAND,  
OWEN SOUND, TRI-CITIES,  
STRATFORD,  
BRANTFORD, OSHAWA,  
THE KAWARTHAS AND  
KINGSTON/BELLEVILLE AREA







Manitoulin-Lake Simcoe includes:

- Kingston,
- Belleville,
- Peterborough,
- Oshawa,
- Kitchener,
- Barrie,
- Owen Sound
- and Stratford



# PLANTS THAT ATTRACT POLLINATORS IN THE MANITOULIN-LAKE SIMCOE

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	<1m	white, cream, pink	May - July	sun to partial shade	well drained to dry	hummingbirds, bees	X
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey tea	up to 1m	white	June - August	sun to partial sun	dry	bees, flies, beetles, butterflies	X
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	alternateleaf dogwood	2-6m	white	April - July	sun to shade	dry to wet	bees, beetles, flies, butterflies	X
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Red-osier Dogwood	1-3m	white	June-August	sun to partial shade	moist	bees, butterflies, flies	X
<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>	eastern teaberry	<1m	white, cream	April - May	partial shade	well drained, dry to moist	birds	
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	eastern witch-hazel	3-5m	yellow-orange	September - November	sun to shade	moist	moths, beetles	X
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	winterberry	1-3m	white, cream, greenish brown	May - June	sun to partial shade	well drained, dry to wet	birds, bees	X
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	northern spicebush	1-5m	yellow green	March - May	sun to shade	moist	bees, flies	X
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	eastern ninebark	1-3m	white	May - June	sun to partial shade	dry to wet	bees, butterflies, flies	X
<i>Populus balsamifera</i>	balsam poplar	up to 25m	white, yellow, green	April - June	sun to partial shade	well drained	bees, flies	
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	black cherry	18-27m	white	April - May	shade to sun	moist	bees, flies, wasps	X
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	chokecherry	6m+	white	June	sun to partial sun	moist	bees	X
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	staghorn sumac	1-8m	yellow, green	June - August	sun to partial sun	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 occidentalis</i>	black raspberry	1-3m	white	March - April	sun to partial shade	moist	bees, flies	
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	common elderberry	2-3m	white	June - July	sun to partial sun	dry to wet, well drained	bees, bettle, flies	X
<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	red elderberry	2-5m	white	May - June	sun to partial shade	dry to wet	bees, beetles, flies	X
<i>Tilia americana</i>	basswood	up to 25m	yellow white	April - June	sun to partial shade	moist, well drained	bees, flies, moths	X
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	mapleleaved viburnum	1-2m	white, cream	May - July	sun to shade	dry to moist, well drained	butterflies	X
<b>Forbs</b>								
<i>Actaea racemosa</i>	black cohosh	1-3m	white	June - July	shade to partial sun	moist	bees, flies	X



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<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	Canada anemone	<1m	white, cream	April-August	sun to shade	moist, well drained	bees	
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	wild columbine	<1m	yellow, red	April-July	sun to partial shade	dry to moist, well drained	hummingbirds, butterflies, bees	X
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	red columbine	1-1.5 m	red with yellow	April - July	partial shade to sun	moist, well drained	hummingbirds, bees, moths	X
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	Jack in the Pulpit	<1m	purple, greenish brown	April-June	deciduous shade (spring sun)	moist to wet, well drained	gnats, thrips	
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed	1-1.5 m	purple, pink	June-August	sun	moist to wet	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly Weed	<1m	yellow, orange	June-September	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	hummingbirds, butterflies, bees	X
<i>Campanula gieseckeaana</i>	Harebell	<1m	blue, purple	June-September	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	hummingbirds	
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	white turtlehead	<1m	white, cream, pink	July - September	sun to shade	moist to wet	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Cirsium discolor</i>	field thistle	<1m	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	1-1.5 m	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>Erigeron spp.</i>	daisy fleabanes	up to 1m	white, yellow	May - September	partial sun to sun	moist to wet	bees, flies, butterflies, moths	X
<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>	spotted Joe Pye weed	1-2 m	purple, pink	July - September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet, well drained	butterflies, bees	
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	common boneset	1-1.5 m	white	July - September	sun	well drained to moist	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	flat-top goldentop	1-1.5 m	yellow	July - October	sun	moist to well drained	butterflies, bees	
<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>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	closed gentian	<1m	blue, purple	August-September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet, well drained	bees	
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	wild geranium	<1m	purple, pink	April-June	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	sneezeweed	1-1.5m	yellow, brown	July - September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet	bees, wasps, flies, butterflies	X
<i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>	Woodland Sunflower	1-1.5 m	yellow	July-September	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	false sunflower	1m	yellow	July - October	sun	dry to moderately moist	bees, butterflies	
<i>Iris versicolor</i>	Wild Blue Iris	<1m	blue, purple	May-August	sun to partial shade	moist to wet	hummingbirds, bees	
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	roundhead lespedeza	1-1.5 m	white, cream, greenish brown	August - October	sun to partial shade	dry to well drained	bees	
<i>Lilium philadelphicum</i>	wood lily	<1m	red, orange	June-August	sun to partial shade	dry	hummingbirds	

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<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	cardinal flower	1-1.5 m	red	July-September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet, well drained	hummingbirds, butterflies, bees	
<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	1-1.5 m	blue	August-September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet, well drained	hummingbirds, butterflies, bees	
<i>Lysimachia ciliata</i>	fringed loosestrife	1-1.5 m	yellow	June-August	partial shade to shade	moist	bees	
<i>Lysimachia terrestris</i>	swamp candles	<1m	yellow	June-August	sun to partial shade	moist	bees	
<i>Mentha canadensis</i>	Canada mint	<1m	white to pink, violet	July-October	partial shade	moist to wet	bees	
<i>Monarda didyma</i>	bee balm	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>Packer plattensis</i>	prairie groundsel	less than 1m	yellow	May-August	sun	dry	bees, flies, butterflies	
<i>Packera paupercula</i>	balsam ragwort	<1m	yellow	May-August	partial shade	moist	bees	
<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>	hairy beardtongue	<1m	purple, pink	May-July	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	hummingbirds, bees	
<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	wild blue phlox	<1m	pale blue to lavender (or white)	April - June	partial shade	moist	butterflies, moth, bees	
<i>Phytostegia virginiana</i>	obedient plant	1-1.5 m	pink to pale lilac	August-November	sun to shade	moist	hummingbirds, butterflies	
<i>Potentilla arguta</i>	tall cinquefoil	<1m	white, cream	June - September	sun	dry to well drained		
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed Susan	1-1.5m	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>Rudbeckia serotina</i>	black-eyed Susan	1-1.5 m	yellow, orange	June-October	sun to partial shade	dry to moist, well drained	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Sisyrinchium montanum</i>	strict blue-eyed grass	<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	1-1.5 m	yellow, orange	July-October	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	butterflies, bees	
<i>Solidago juncea</i>	early goldenrod	1-1.5 m	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>Solidago ptarmicoices</i>	prairie goldenrod	up to 1m	white	July - September	sun	dry to well drained	bees, flies, butterflies	
<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>	steeplebush	1-1.5m	purple, pink	July-September	sun to partial shade	moist	butterflies	X
<i>Symphotrichum ciliolatum</i>	fringed blue aster	up to 1m	blue, purple	July-October	sun	dry, well drained	butterflies	X



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<i>Symphotrichum cordifolium</i>	heart-leaf aster	1-2m	white to purple	June - August	sun	moist	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Symphotrichum ericoides</i>	heath aster	up to 2m	white, cream	August - October	sun	dry to moist, well drained	butterflies, bees	X
<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>	smooth blue aster	1-1.5 m	blue, purple	August - November	sun	dry	butterflies	X
<i>Symphotrichum oolentangiense</i>	azure aster	up to 1m	blue to purple	September - November	sun to partial shade	dry to well drained	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Symphotrichum pilosum</i>	hairy white oldfield aster	up to 2m	white, pink, purple	July - August	sun	moist	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	up to 1m	purple	September - October	sun to partial shade	moist, well-drained	bees, butterflies, flies	
<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>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia creeper	15m+	greenish white	May - June	sun to shade	dry to moist	bees, flies	X
<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	<1m	yellow, greenish brown	June - August	sun to partial shade	dry, moist	butterflies	X
<i>Carex comosa</i>	longhair sedge	1-1.5 m	greenish brown	May - July	sun to partial shade	moist to wet		
<i>Carex crinita</i>	fringed sedge	1-1.5 m	greenish brown	May - July	partial shade to shade	moist to wet		
<i>Carex stipata</i>	awlfruit sedge	<1m	greenish brown	May - June	sun to partial shade	moist to wet		
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	fox sedge	<1m	greenish brown	May - June	sun	moist to wet		
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada wildrye	1-1.5m	yellow, green, brown	March - June	sun to partial shade	moist		
<i>Juncus tenuis</i>	poverty rush	<1m	greenish brown	May - September	sun to partial shade	moist to wet, well drained		
<i>Juncus torreyi</i>	Torrey's rush	<1m	greenish brown	August - October	sun	moist		
<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>	green bulrush	1-1.5m	greenish brown	June - July	sun to partial shade	moist to wet		
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	indiangrass	<1m	yellow	August - September	sun to partial shade	dry to moist, well drained	butterflies	X
<i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>	sand dropseed	<1m	yellow	May - November	sun to partial shade	dry		