

# Harrisonburg A Pollinator-Friendly City

Did you know pollinators touch 1/3 of the food we consume and over 150 food crops in the United States depend on pollinators? Harrisonburg has established its very own pollinator corridor helping keep our local ecosystem healthy by providing an intentional and appealing pathway for pollinators to travel, rest, and feed. The corridor mostly includes gardens and medians planted with a specific theme of pollinator flower and tree species that appeal to our native bees, butterflies, moths, birds, and even bats. Harrisonburg's Pollinator Program serves as a resource to connect the community with pollinator education, events, volunteer opportunities, and more that enhance participation in beautification and pollinator-friendly environmental initiatives.

## Parks for Pollinators- Taking Action & Advancing Sustainability



-National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA)

## LOCAL RESOURCES

[HarrisonburgVA.gov/Pollinators](http://HarrisonburgVA.gov/Pollinators)



### Partnering Organization Websites:

### Pollinator Planting Resources:

- [www.PlantVirginiaNatives.org](http://www.PlantVirginiaNatives.org)
- [www.JMU.edu/Arboretum/](http://www.JMU.edu/Arboretum/)
- [www.HeadwatersMN.org/](http://www.HeadwatersMN.org/)
- [www.Ext.VT.edu/Lawn-Garden/Master-Gardener.html](http://www.Ext.VT.edu/Lawn-Garden/Master-Gardener.html)

### Environmental Resources:

- [Ext.VT.edu/](http://Ext.VT.edu/)
- [www.DOF.Virginia.gov/](http://www.DOF.Virginia.gov/)
- [www.DWR.Virginia.gov/](http://www.DWR.Virginia.gov/)
- [www.BlueRidgePRISM.org/](http://www.BlueRidgePRISM.org/)
- [www.VDACS.Virginia.gov/](http://www.VDACS.Virginia.gov/)
- [www.HeadwatersMN.org/](http://www.HeadwatersMN.org/)

## NEED ASSISTANCE? CONTACT US!

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## POLLINATOR GUIDE



## HARRISONBURG POLLINATOR PROGRAM





# Harrisonburg's Pollinator Corridor & Downtown Walking Tour

More Information at [HarrisonburgVA.gov/Pollinators](http://HarrisonburgVA.gov/Pollinators)



## How to Make Your Garden Pollinator-Friendly

1. Choose the right plants for the environment they will be planted in. Consider wet or dry soil, plant spacing requirements, sun or shade. Make sure they are bright and colorful utilizing blues, purples, yellows, and whites.
2. Make sure there is a shallow water source nearby for pollinators to drink.
3. Create a safe haven with the installation of a bee hotel or plant a hedge.
4. Reduce use of pesticides and try integrated pest management (IPM) options. Check out [www.FWS.gov/page/pollinators-integrated-pest-management](http://www.FWS.gov/page/pollinators-integrated-pest-management)
5. Plant a variety of flowers that bloom at different times of the year to extend pollinator resources over time.

## Types of Gardens & Pollinator Plants

### Manicured Flower Bed



Manicured pollinator spaces include planting species considering the ideal environment in which the plant thrives and are usually multi-dimensional, requiring some planning. In urban settings these flower beds are installed in City-owned medians, green spaces, parks and facilities, raised beds, sidewalk planters, etc. Downtown Harrisonburg and the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum are good places to see manicured pollinator beds. Species to consider in these spaces: Coneflower, Black Eyed Susan, Hydrangea, Hibiscus, Agastache, Salvia, Coral Bells, etc.

### Rain Garden



Rain gardens are installed in wet spaces that occur naturally or are created due to urban infrastructure. Water-loving plants and trees with strong root structure are usually considered for these spaces. Bioretentions (designed to DEQ specifications) are located beside Harrisonburg City Hall, in Liberty Park, and many other Harrisonburg locations! If a Harrisonburg resident is interested in installing a bioretention or other stormwater management feature, they may consider participating in the Harrisonburg Conservation Assistance Program (HCAP). Species to consider in these spaces: Buttonbush, Astilbe, Joe-Pye-Weed, Milkweed, Ferns, River Birch tree, Bald Cypress tree, Paw Paw tree, etc.

### Pollinator Meadow



Flowering pollinator meadows, usually installed in larger green space areas and where they may be maintained, provide many benefits to the ecosystem providing a wealth of pollinator host plant options for our pollinators. A few well-maintained pollinator meadows in Harrisonburg are by the pond in Purcell Park and the hillside at James Madison University's King Hall. Species to consider in a meadow space: Buckwheat, Clover, Milkweed, Ironweed, Sunflowers, etc. Plant species used in manicured pollinator beds are also appropriate for meadows as long as the plant species' needs match the environment.

### Pollinator Animal Species



and more!

### Pollinator-Friendly Trees

Trees are pollinators too! When planting a tree, make sure to practice "Right Tree, Right Place". Great pollinator-friendly trees you may consider are the Fringetree, Witch Hazel, Flowering Dogwood, Magnolia, Oak, American Holly, Persimmon, Serviceberry, Paw Paw, Apple, Black Gum, Northern Catalpa, and more!



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