

NATIVE PLANT SALE GARDEN KITS

Three garden kits are offered through the Washtenaw County Conservation District spring native plants sale – Butterfly Garden, Pollinator Insects Garden, and Rain Garden. Each kit includes 32 plant plugs of native Michigan perennial plants suitable for the purpose of each garden kit.

Following this cover page are listings of the plants that were included in last year's kits. PLEASE NOTE that the exact contents of the kits for this year may be different, based upon plant availability when the kits are assembled at the nursery. A current list of the plants included in this year's kits will be provided with each garden kit.

BUTTERFLY GARDEN KIT

The plants included in the Butterfly Garden Kit have been selected to attract butterflies and provide a variety of color for your enjoyment. Here are a few helpful hints to plan and install a butterfly garden.

- Locate the garden in a sunny area. Butterflies and most butterfly-attracting plants require bright sunshine.
- Plant flowers in groups. Butterflies are first attracted to flowers by color. Groups of flowers are easier for butterflies to locate than isolated plants. Plant the taller plants towards the back.
- Include damp areas or shallow puddles. Some butterflies drink and extract salts from moist soil. Add a bird bath, stone with concave surface, or other feature to add water to your butterfly garden.
- Place flat stones in the garden. Butterflies often perch on stones, spread their wings and bask in the sun. Basking raises their body temperature so they are able to fly and remain active.

POLLINATOR INSECTS GARDEN KIT

The plants included in the Pollinator Garden Kit have been selected to attract insects that pollinate most crop plants grown for their fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds, and fiber. Here are a few helpful hints to plan and install a pollinator insects garden.

- Locate the garden in an area that receives at least six hours of sun each day.
- Provide water sources for the pollinators such as shallow pools, mud puddles, or birdbaths.
- You can add nesting structures to your pollinator garden to provide shelter and safety from predators for pollinating insects.

Additional Web Resources on Pollinator Gardens

Pollinator Partnership: <http://www.pollinator.org/gardens.htm>

Pollinator Gardens: <http://www.gardeningknowhow.com/flower/creating-a-pollinator-garden.htm>

RAIN GARDEN KIT

The plants included in the Rain Garden Kit have been selected to tolerate both wet and dry conditions, while also providing habitat for butterflies and other insects, and providing a variety of color for your enjoyment. Here are a few helpful hints to plan and install a rain garden.

A rain garden captures rainwater, allowing it to soak naturally into the soil. By infiltrating rain into the ground, you can reduce problems with runoff and standing water. In addition, the plants and soil in a rain garden filter and reduce pollutants that may be in the runoff, like nutrients and pesticides from lawn applications, and oils and metals from cars and roads.

- To choose a location, note the direction of runoff when it rains and low spots where water collects.
- Stay at least 10 feet away and down slope from building foundations. Stay away from septic system drain fields. Also stay away from right-of-ways and underground service lines or utilities.

Additional Web Resources on Rain Gardens

Rain Gardens of West Michigan: www.raingardens.org/index.php

Rain Gardens: A How-to Manual for Homeowners: <http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/raingarden/rqmanual.pdf>

Native Plant Butterfly Garden Kit

site: full sun - partial shade

Kit contains a selection of native Michigan perennial plants, providing nectar and larval host plants for a variety of local butterflies. Each plant is labeled with the first 3 letters of the genus and species name. Plant your garden in full sun to part shade, space the plants about 1.5 -2 feet apart, remove paper tubes when planting. Kit will fill an area about 80 -100 sqft.

Allium cernuum, (Nodding Wild Onion)

height: 1 -1.5 ft. graceful nodding pink flower clusters emerge from a clump of narrow leaves

light: sun -light

shade

moisture: dry mesic

-mesic



Aster umbellatus, (Tall Flat-top White Aster)

height: 3 -4 ft. upright perennial.

light: sun

moisture: mesic

-wet mesic



Coreopsis tripteris, (Tall coreopsis)

height: 4 -8 ft. several upright stems with branched clusters of yellow flowers in late summer;

light: sun -pt. sun spreads by underground runners to form a patch; seeds provide food for birds.

moisture: mesic

-wet mesic



Eupatorium maculatum, (Joe-pye weed)

height: 4 -6 ft. an upright perennial; An excellent nectar source for butterflies; naturalizes well

light: sun in wet soil; tolerates typical garden conditions as an ornamental.

moisture: wet mesic

-wet



Monarda fistulosa, (Wild bergamot, Beebalm)

height: 3 -5 ft. An upright, lightly brached perennial; light purple flowers in summer; fragrant

light: pt. sun -sun leaves.

moisture: mesic



***Penstemon hirsutus*, (Hairy beard-tongue)**

height: 2 -3 ft. perennial roots produce a compact cluster of upright stems; can work well as an
light: sun -light ornamental specimen.
shade
moisture: dry mesic



***Pycnanthemum virginianum*, (Mountain mint)**

height: 2 -4 ft. perennial roots form a small patch of several upright stems; leaves small and
light: sun narrow with minty fragrance.
moisture: mesic
-wet mesic



***Ratibida pinnata*, (Yellow coneflower)**

height: 4 -6 ft. perennial roots produce several upright stems topped with relatively large
light: sun blooms; can naturalize well from seed; leaves divided into narrow segments.
moisture: mesic
-dry mesic



***Rudbeckia hirta*, (Black-eyed susan)**

height: 2 -4 ft. A short-lived perennial. Blooms throughout the summer and into the fall.
light: pt. sun -sun Reseeds itself readily on open ground.
moisture: wet mesic
-dry mesic



***Solidago riddellii*, (Riddell's goldenrod)**

height: 2 -4 ft. perennial roots send up several upright stem with narrow, arching leaves.
light: sun
moisture: wet mesic
-mesic



***Veronicastrum virginicum*, (Culver's root)**

height: 3 -5 ft. several upright stems with narrow, sharply pointed leaves, arranged in whorls (or
light: sun -light tiers) to create interesting texture; spires of white flowers form at the top.
shade
moisture: wet mesic
-dry mesic



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All plants listed are Michigan Natives, grown from Michigan source seeds.
Plants provided by Native Plant Nursery LLC, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
www.nativeplant.com

Native Plant Beneficial Pollinator Kit

site: full sun - partial shade

Kit contains a selection of native Michigan perennial plants to encourage beneficial insects and pollinators. Each plant is individually labeled with the first 3 letters of the genus and species name. Plant your garden in full sun to part shade, space the plants about 1.5 -2 feet apart, remove paper tubes when planting. Kit will fill an area about 80 -100 sqft.

Allium cernuum, (Nodding Wild Onion)

height: 1 -1.5 ft. graceful nodding pink flower clusters emerge from a clump of narrow leaves

light: sun -light shade

moisture: dry mesic -mesic



Aster laevis, (Smooth Aster)

height: 3 -5 ft. smooth, bluish-green stem and leaves; branched clusters of soft purple flowers in fall; spreads to form small patches; naturalizes well from seed.

light: sun

moisture: mesic

-dry mesic



Eupatorium perfoliatum, (Boneset)

height: 3 -5 ft. an upright perennial with textured, pointy leaves joined around the stem;

light: sun -part sunnaturalizes well in wet soil; tolerates typical garden conditions as an ornamental;

moisture: mesic An excellent nectar source for butterflies.
-wet mesic



Lobelia siphilitica, (Great Blue Lobelia)

height: 2 -4 ft. compact form; several upright stems form spikes of blue flowers in fall; can spread well from seed.

light: sun - shade

moisture: mesic

-wet mesic



Monarda punctata, (Horsemint)

height: 1 -2 ft. A low-growing perennial spreading to form a small patch; somewhat narrow leaves fragrant when crushed.

light: sun

moisture: dry

mesic -dry



***Penstemon hirsutus*, (Hairy beard-tongue)**

height: 2 -3 ft. perennial roots produce a compact cluster of upright stems; can work well as an
light: sun -light ornamental specimen.
shade
moisture: dry
mesic



***Ratibida pinnata*, (Yellow coneflower)**

height: 4 -6 ft. perennial roots produce several upright stems topped with relatively large blooms;
light: sun can naturalize well from seed; leaves divided into narrow segments.
moisture: mesic
-dry mesic



***Silphium terebinthinaceum*, (Prairie dock)**

height: 4 -8 ft. a clusters of large, upright lower leaves sends up a leafless stalk in late summer
light: full sun that branches into numerous yellow flowers; a long-lived perennial; deep tap root.
-light shade
moisture: dry
mesic -mesic



***Solidago riddellii*, (Riddell's goldenrod)**

height: 2 -4 ft. perennial roots send up several upright stem with narrow, arching leaves.
light: sun
moisture: wet
mesic -mesic



***Solidago speciosa*, (Showy goldenrod)**

height: 3 -5 ft. perennial roots send up several upright reddish stems with shiny, cleanly-cut leaves
light: sun
moisture: mesic
-dry mesic



***Veronicastrum virginicum*, (Culver's root)**

height: 3 -5 ft. several upright stems with narrow, sharply pointed leaves, arranged in whorls (or
light: sun -light tiers) to create interesting texture; spires of white flowers form at the top.
shade
moisture: wet
mesic -dry mesic



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Native Plant Rain Garden Kit

site: periodically moist soil, full-sun to partial shade

Kit contains a mix of native Michigan perennial plants, each one individually labeled with the first 3 letters of the genus and species name. Plant your garden in full sun to part shade in an area that gets extra moisture after a rain, space the plants about 1.5 -2.5 feet apart, remove paper tubes when planting. Kit will fill an area about 80 -100 sqft.

Aster umbellatus, (Tall Flat-top White Aster)

height: 3 -4 ft. upright perennial.

light: sun

moisture: mesic

-wet mesic



Carex bebbii, (Bebb's sedge)

height: 2 ft. clumping form: greens up in early spring.

light: sun -pt.

shade

moisture: wet

mesic -mesic

(medium)



Carex vulpinoidea, (Fox sedge)

height: 1 -2 ft. A clumping perennial; tolerates fluctuating moisture levels.

light: sun -part

shade

moisture: mesic

-wet mesic



Eupatorium maculatum, (Joe-pye weed)

height: 4 -6 ft. an upright perennial; An excellent nectar source for butterflies; naturalizes well in

wet soil; tolerates typical garden conditions as an ornamental.

light: sun

moisture: wet

mesic -wet



Juncus effusus, (Soft-stemmed rush)

height: 2 -3 ft. clump-forming, grass-like perennial; straight, upright narrow blades a deep-green

color.

light: sun -light

shade

moisture: wet

mesic -wet



***Lobelia siphilitica*, (Great Blue Lobelia)**

height: 2 -4 ft. compact form; several upright stems form spikes of blue flowers in fall; can spread
light: sun - shade well from seed.
moisture: mesic
-wet mesic



***Mimulus ringens*, (Monkey-flower)**

height: 2 -4 ft. a weak-stemmed perennial; purple flowers in late summer.
light: sun -part sun
moisture: mesic
-wet mesic



***Senecio aureus*, (Golden ragwort)**

height: 2-3 ft. perennial roots spread to form a groundcover of rounded leaves in early spring;
light: shade -part sun later, sends up several upright flower stems, which go to seed and die-back in summer.
moisture: mesic
-wet



***Thalictrum dasycarpum*, (Tall meadow-rue)**

height: 3 -6 ft. perennial with upright stems and delicate, divided leaves; airy plume of white
light: shade -part sun flowers.
moisture: mesic
-wet mesic



***Tradescantia ohiensis*, (Common spiderwort)**

height: 1.5 -2.5 ft. perennial roots spread to form a compact patch of greyish-green sword-shaped
light: sun -light shade leaves; short-lived blooms in morning fade by afternoon; flowers repeatedly
summer through fall; flower color varies from pinkish-purple - blue.
moisture: wet
mesic -dry mesic



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