POLLINATOR CORRIDOR

www.watershedprogressive.com

www.watertoolkit.org

Pollinator Corridor Design and Installation Checklist

Pollinator corridors are pesticide-free paths of native plants that provide habitat and nutrients for pollinators and other small wildlife. These corridors create an opportunity for people to engage with nature in a meaningful way, and to contribute to beautiful, climate appropriate landscapes.

1. Feasibility & Design

✓ **Ensure a pesticide/herbicide free zone:** add signage to help extend this practice to neighbors.

✓ **Plant native and flowering pollinator plant species:** many native and flowering plants provide critical pollinator habitat as food and shelter.

✓ **Select plants:** choose plantings that help many different species and/ or support rare and endangered pollinator species. These plants can be incorporated into your ornamental landscape and look beautiful!

✓ **Start small:** even potted plants and narrow curb strips can provide pollinator plant habitat.

✓ **Go big:** planning a larger, connected corridor between your site and neighbors is more valuable to pollinators. Map out connections through your community such as along sidewalks and regional connections to parks and wild areas for an extra value.

✓ **Maximize pollinator habitat:** consider layering pollinator plant species including overstory trees, understory small trees/large shrubs, shrubs, perennials, groundcovers, and vines to

✓ **Become crafty:** Solitary bee hotels and bird houses can add to your pollinator habitat.

What are Pollinators?

Bees, butterflies, birds, and other wildlife species move pollen between plants, allowing cross-fertilization plants need to reproduce and grow.

This process is necessary to grow food crops and ensure ecological health. Pollinator species are endangered due to loss of habitat from urbanization, pesticide/herbicide use, and other human activities.

2. Build & Maintain It!

✓ **DO NOT use pesticides and herbicides!** These harm pollinator species.

✓ **Keep leaves on the ground:** instead of removing in autumn and through winter, leave them behind for pollinating insects to use for their eggs and pupae.

✓ **Mow less:** If you have a lawn, you can help pollinators by mowing less often and letting grass grow higher. Replacing some of all of the lawn with pollinator plantings is even more beneficial!

✓ **Re-direct water reuse systems:** greywater, rainwater overflow, and curb cuts can be directed to water native pollinator plantings.

California Native Pollinator Planting in a Rain Garden. Source: Watershed Progressive

Pollinator Corridor Plant Palette for Ventura County

Place High Water Use Plants at Low Point in Rain Garden, Medium Water Use on Lower Slopes, and Low Water Use on Edges of Rain Garden (Water Use: 💧💧💧 = High, 💧💧 = Medium, 💧 = Low; 🌼 = Native, 🦋 = Edible)

Trees

Aesculus californica
California Buckeye

Cercis occidentalis
Western Redbud

Chilopsis linearis
Desert Willow

Prunus ilicifolia
Holly-leaved Cherry

Quercus agrifolia
Coast Live Oak

Quercus lobata
Valley Oak

Platanus racemosa
Sycamore

Large Shrubs

Arctostaphylus sp.
Manzanita

Carpenteria californica
Bush Anemoni

Ceanothus sp.
California Lilac

Fremontodendron californicum
California Flannelbush

Heteromeles arbutifolia
Toyon

Rhus integrifolia
Lemonade Berry

Sambucus nigra
Black Elderberry

Shrubs

Diplacus/Mimulus longiflorus
Sticky Monkeyflower

Epilobium canum
California Fuschia

Eriophyllum confertiflorum
Golden Yarrow

Lupinus albrifrons
Silver Lupine

Rosa californica
California Wild Rose

Salvia clevelandii
Cleveland Sage

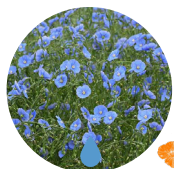*Trichostema lanatum*
Wooly Blue Curls

Perennials

Achillea millefolium
Yarrow

Asclepias fascicularis
Narrow Leaf Milkweed

Eriogonum fasciculatum
California Buckwheat

Linum lewisii
Wild Blue Flax

Salvia spathacea
Hummingbird Sage

Monardella villosa
Coyote Mint

Penstemon heterophyllus
Foothill Penstemon

Wildflowers, Groundcovers

Arctostaphylus uva-ursi
Bearberry

Ceanothus griseus horizontalis
Carmel Creeper

Eriogonum umbellatum
Sulphur Buckwheat

Eschscholzia californica
California Poppy

Salvia "Bee's Bliss"
Creeping Sage

Nemophila menziesii
Baby Blue Eyes

Phacelia californica
Tansy-leaved Phacelia