

2025 MG Intern Workshop - BEES OF OREGON
Saturday, May 31, 2025 - PCC Rock Creek
RESOURCE LIST

Oregon State University

[Enhancing Urban and Suburban Landscapes to Protect Pollinators](#) - OSU, EM 9289, June 2020. This guide offers detailed plants lists, garden designs, advice on creating pollinator habitat, and methods to keep plants health without the use of pesticide.

[Garden Ecology Lab](#) - OSU Socio-ecological research in urban and suburban garden systems. Great source for information on pollinators and more!

[Garden Ecology Lab for Gardeners](#) - A collection of briefs that translate research findings into sustainable gardening practices. In cooperation with 10-Minute University™ and Clackamas County Master Gardener Association.

[Garden Ecology Lab Brief: Supporting Diverse Bees with Native Plants](#)

[Garden Ecology Lab “Where do I buy native plants in Oregon?”](#)

[Gardening with Oregon Native Plants West of the Cascades](#) - EC 1577, Rev Oct 2022. Contains information and where to find native plants, how to choose and care for plants, which plants are best for pots, and where to go for more information.

[Native Plant Picks for Bees](#) - OSU, EM 9363, Sept 2022. This guide covers 10 native plant species that can help attract a diverse and abundant of bees to your garden.

[Top plants to attract bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to Oregon gardens](#) - May 2024, rev 2025. Kym Pokorny. This article lists both native and non-native plants that are great additions to a pollinator garden.

Creating Nesting Habitat

[Enhancing Nest Sites for Native Bee Crop Pollinators](#) - USDA National Agroforestry Center, AF Note-34, Feb 2007. Information geared for agricultural sites.

[Nesting & Overwintering Habitat for Pollinators & Other Beneficial Insects](#) - Xerces Society, 2020. This guide focuses on a variety of natural nesting habitat features that can be readily incorporated into most landscapes.

Native Plants (more resources listed under 'Books')

[Native Plants for Pollinators and Beneficial Insects in the Maritime Northwest](#) - This Xerces Society regional plant list highlights native plants that are highly attractive as food sources for adult pollinators and more.; serve as nesting material or sites for certain bees; provide pollen for bees with specialized pollen needs; and feed beneficial predators and parasitoids that contribute to pest control.

[Native plants for Willamette Valley yards](#) - Published by Metro and local partners, this is a handy and portable guide to native plants. A plant icon key identifies light and soil needs, wildlife attracted to the plant and native ranges. Downloadable pdfs in English and Spanish.

[Pollinator Partnerships: Ecoregional Planting Guides](#) - Guides for selecting plants for pollinators from ecoregions across the U.S. Enter your location information to find your ecoregion. This link takes you to the Pacific Lowland Mixed Forest Province which includes the Portland Metro Area.

[Pollinator Partnership](#) - Native Pollinator Garden Recipe Cards. These cards provide regional native planting guides for smaller pollinator gardens (3'x6'). [Northwest Region](#) recipe card.

[Pollinator Plants & Bloom Periods for West Multnomah & Portland Metro Area](#) - WMSWCD

Pesticide-Related Information

[Buying Bee-Safe Plants](#) - Feb 2021. This Xerces publication offers tips on why and how to talk with nurseries about pollinator-friendly practices.

[Grow Smart Grow Safe](#) - The Grow Smart, Grow Safe® online consumer guide to lawn and garden products is a project of Thurston County Environmental Health in Olympia, Washington. Information is applicable to Oregon gardeners too.

[How Neonicotinoids Can Kill Bees: The Science Behind the Role these Insecticides Play in Harming Bees.](#) Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, 2016. 2nd Edition, Revised and Expanded, Jennifer Hopwood, Aimee Code, Mace Vaughan, David Biddinger, Matthew Shepherd, Scott Hoffman Black, Eric Lee-Mader, Celeste Mazzacano

[Protecting Pollinators at Home](#) - Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, Aimée Code and Sarah Hoyle. This guide will help you protect your garden from pesticide use.

[Solve Pest Problems](#) (Oregon State University) - A science-based pest management guide for homeowners, landscapers, and gardeners in the Pacific Northwest. Solve pest problems in and around your home and garden effectively and with lower risk.

Books

[100 Plants to Feed the Bees.](#) The Xerces Society. Storey Publishing, 2016. This book contains plants for various regions of the U.S. and Canada. Each plant listed includes, photos, plant characteristics, geographic regions where it will grow and more.

[Attracting Native Pollinators.](#) Xerces Society Guide to protecting north America's bees and butterflies. Storey Publishing, 2019

[Bringing Nature Home- How you can sustain Wildlife with Native Plants](#) D. Tallamy, Timber Press, 2007. "A powerful and compelling illustration of how the choices we make as gardeners can profoundly impact the diversity of life in our yards, town and on our planet."

[Bumble Bees of North America](#) - Princeton University Press, 2014. P.Williams, R. Thorp, L. Richardson, & S. Colla. The essential guide for identifying the bumble bees of North America.

[*Common Bees of Western North America*](#) - Princeton University Press, 2023. Olivia Messinger Carril. A portable, full-color photographic guide to the most commonly seen bees in the western United States and Canada.

[*Gardening with Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest*](#). A. Kruckeberg and L. Chalker-Scott. University of Washington Press, 2019. This book includes over 900 native trees, shrubs, perennials, grasses, and annuals - each species carefully selected to be garden-worthy.

[*Nature's Best Hope – a new approach to conservation that starts in your yard*](#) D. Tallamy, Timber Press, 2019. In this book, the author “urges home-owners to take environmental action into their own hands, one yard at a time.”

[*Real Gardens Grow Natives*](#). E. Stark. Skipstone, 2014. Written by Portland landscape designer and consultant, this book contains detailed profiles of 100 select native plants for the PNW garden.

[*The Bees in Your Backyard*](#) - Princeton University Press, 2016. Joseph S. Wilson and Olivia Messinger Carril. Provides an engaging introduction to the roughly 4,000 different bee species found in the United States and Canada, dispelling common myths about bees while offering essential tips for telling them apart in the field.

[*The Pacific Northwest Native Plant Primer: 225 Plants for an Earth-Friendly Garden*](#). K. Currin & A. Merritt. Timber Press, 2023. Packed with proven advice that every home gardener can follow. For gardeners in Oregon, Washington, and southern British Columbia.

Webinars / Podcasts

[Bug Banter Podcast](#) - Xerces Society. This podcast explores the world of invertebrates and covers ways to help these extraordinary animals.

[Conserving Invertebrates at Home](#) - Aaron Anderson, Pesticide Program Specialist, The Xerces Society for Conservation of Invertebrates. This webinar covers how to create habitat for invertebrates and beneficial insects in the home yard.

[Mason Bees 101](#) - Ron Spental, OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteer. This webinar covers the identification and natural history of mason bees. Gain a solid understanding of the characteristics and activities of mason bees and why they are one of the earliest and best pollinators in our area.

NOTE: Download Ron's excellent **Mason Bee publication**. Available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

[PolliNation Podcast](#) - A podcast from Oregon State University Extension Service that tells the stories of researchers, land managers (and people like you) who are making bold strides to improve the health of pollinators. Your host is [Andony Melathopoulos](#) (OSU Extension Service Pollinator Health Specialist)

[Raising Mason Bees](#) - Ron Spental, OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteer. This webinar covers the needs of mason bees and how to attract them to your area. Various nesting devices are presented and discussed.

[Take a Walk on the Wild Side: the weird and wild BEES of Oregon](#) - Andony Melathopoulos, OSU Pollinator Health Extension Specialist and Susan Albright, OSU Extension MG Volunteer and Apprentice Master Melittologist with Oregon Bee Atlas (OBA). Andony addresses the work and research being done by OBA and the Master Melittologist Program. Through the story of transitions in her garden,

Susan shares how her training through Master Gardeners and work with OBA has influenced her views on who and what a garden is for.

[What Grows Here? Exploring Oregon's Plant Diversity](#) - Linda Hardison, OregonFlora, Oregon State University. Linda talks about the OregonFlora project, a great resource that has documented detailed information about the various native flora in Oregon.

[Why Native Plants: Saving Nature One Yard at a Time](#) - Lynn Kuntsman, Jackson County Master Gardener Association. This presentation is based on "Nature's Best Hope" by Douglas Tallamy. Learn what actions you can take in your own garden.

Organizations

[Backyard Habitat Certification Program](#) - Collaboration between Bird Alliance of Oregon and Columbia Land Trust. A unique program that supports urban gardeners in their efforts to create natural backyard habitats. Currently available in Clackamas, Clark, Multnomah and Washington Counties.

[Native Plant Society of Oregon](#) Dedicated to the enjoyment, conservation, and study of Oregon's native plants and habitats.

[Oregon Flora Project](#) - OregonFlora has assembled a comprehensive guide to the ~4,750 vascular plants of Oregon that is shared through this website, the Flora of Oregon books, and our wildflower identification app. Includes a section on growing natives in your garden and landscape.

[Oregon Bee Atlas](#) - The OBA Master Melittologist Program trains and equips citizen scientists to a) create and maintain a comprehensive and publicly accessible inventory of the state's native bees and their plant-host preferences, b) to educate Oregonians on the state's bee biodiversity and c) to conduct an on-going survey of native bee populations to assess their health.

[National Wildlife Federation](#) - Native plant finder. Enter zip code to find native plants for your area.

[Soil and Water Conservation Districts](#) - Lots of great resources: clean water, healthy soil, food & farms, invasive species, resilient forests, thriving habitat. Search Event Calendar for upcoming workshops.

[East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District](#)

[Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District](#)

[West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District](#)

[Xerces Society for Conservation of Invertebrates](#) - An international nonprofit organization that protects the natural world through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitat

This resource list was compiled by OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers

Susan Albright, Vicki Finn and Ron Spendal

Washington County Master Gardener Association

www.washingtoncountymastergardeners.org

