



The University of St. Thomas

# POLLINATOR PATH

The Pollinator Path is a series of gardens, some planted to attract pollinators and some planted for aesthetic purposes. They support the study of pollinator activity.

## HOW TO WALK THE POLLINATOR PATH

Slow down. Focus on movement. Notice pollinators. Which plants are popular? Which are left alone?

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## TOP POLLINATOR PATH PERENNIALS

### Top 10 Minnesota natives

Golden Alexander • Wild Bergamot • Purple Coneflower  
Culver's Root • Showy Golden Rod • Milkweed • Blazingstar  
New England Aster • Blue Lobelia • Giant Hyssop

### Top five cultivated varieties

Catmint • Salvia • Blue Fortune Hyssop  
Summer Beauty Onion • Russian Sage

## PROVIDING A SAFE HABITAT FOR POLLINATORS

### Food

- Plant flowering plants that are known to attract pollinators.
- Plant a variety of plants that bloom from early spring through late fall to feed pollinators for as long as possible.
- Replace sod with flower beds OR seed flowering groundcovers into the lawn, such as clover.

### Water

- Provide sources of water in shallow, graduated-edge saucers or bowls so pollinators can stand at the edge and drink. In deeper water sources like a pond or fountain, flat stones can provide a platform for pollinators.
- Many plants gather water on their leaves, including hostas, lady's mantles, cup plants, sedums and waterlilies.

### Nesting

- Ground-dwelling native bees need bare, unmulched ground. Avoid using landscape cloth.
- Tunnel-nesting native bees need cavities to lay eggs. You can make or buy nests. You can also leave at least 16" of perennial stems up all winter for bees to lay their eggs.
- Debris-nesting bumblebees need dense piles of brush, grass or stones to provide a cavity sheltered from rain.

### No Toxins

- Refrain from using pesticides in your home and yard. Investigate alternate methods for managing pests.
- If you must use a pesticide, do not use neonicotinoids, and be sure to follow all label instructions, especially those pertaining to pollinators. These include not using pesticides when bees are present or on flowering plants that will be visited by pollinators in the near future.

## LEARN MORE

*Pollinator Friendly Gardening* by Rhonda Fleming Hayes (Voyageur Press)

*Bees: An Identification and Native Plant Forage Guide* by Heather Holm (Pollination Press)

*Attracting Native Pollinators* by The Xerces Society (Storey Press)

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#environment and #tommiebuzz

- 1 Monahan Fountain Plaza
- 2 Flagpole Beds
- 3 Jester Bed
- 4 Science Building Square Planters
- 5 Science Building Long Bed
- 6 Medicinal Garden
- 7 Anderson Parking Ramp
- 8 Stewardship Garden
- 9 Pollinator Bed

