

Pollinators & Native Plants

Definition: Native plants – plants that exist in a geographic area without direct or indirect human introduction.

- All wildlife depends on native plants, so native plants support and feed the food web.
- Pollinators have evolved with native plants over thousands of years developing unique interdependent relationships.
- Native plants that are propagated from locally sourced seeds or plants within a 50 mile radius contain the genotype and phenotype best suited to local conditions.
- Healthy, complex ecosystems are formed when insects and native plants interact.

Native vs. Non-Native or Invasive Plants

- Aggressive species change the structure and diversity of native plant communities.
- Non-natives and invasives compete with native plants for space and pollinators.
- Native flowering plants are 4 times more likely to attract pollinators than exotic plants.

Other Benefits of Native Plants

- Weed suppression
- Reduction in soil erosion
- Improvement of water quality
- Aesthetics improved