Pollinator and Edible Gardening for Families

Wild Green Garden Consulting



Wild in Nature

- Flowers you may spot on the prairies, such as near **Writing-On-Stone** provincial park:
- Beautiful Sunflower, Yellow Coneflower, Purple Prairie Clover – all pictured below
- Many more... Locoweed, Cactus, Sage, Mallow







Wild in Nature

- Plants you may discover in the mountains, for example in Jasper and William A. Switzer parks:
- Gaillardia / Blanketflower, Wild Flax, Blueberries and Cranberries – as below
- Also Potentilla, Harebells, Goldenrod, Labrador Tea







Wild in Nature

- Pollinator plants you will see when exploring Kananaskis Country:
- Columbine, Asters and Yarrow, Black Currants as below
- And...Fleabanes, Nodding Onion, Geranium, Strawberries, Thistles, Bunchberry







- Excellent native pollinator plants you can grow:
- Giant Hyssop, Gaillardia, Flax
- Bearberry is a wonderful ground cover
- Fireweed can be a bit aggressive; leaf cutter bees cut out circles; they also like roses



Pollinator Box

 Leafcutter Bee uses circles of plant material to line and seal cells with eggs









- Beebalm / Monarda / Bergamot
- Many garden varieties available in nurseries





Wild in Your Yard

- Aster likes sun or shade
- Blooms late July to early September
- Moves around
- Popped up in my yard next to Garden Hyssop (purple spikes) and a purple Cranesbill



- Ground covers under trees and shrubs
- Three-flowered Avens, Wild Strawberries, Canada Violet
- Pussytoes, Golden Aster, Bearberry (Kinnikinnik), Early Blue Violet
- Non-natives: Arctic phlox, Creeping Thyme







Wild in Your Yard

- Other lovely pollinator plants you can grow:
- Lupins, Stiff Goldenrod, Meadow Blazingstar







- Bumble Bees may use a wooden box bird box, bumble bee box
- Also nest in crevices or holes in the ground







Herbs

- Oregano (with Speedwell here)
- Thrives and flowers in dry, sunny locations
- Dill flowers
- Cilantro flowers



Herbs

- Lovage
- Perennial, 6 feet tall with flowers
- Foliage has strong celery flavour, can be used in soups, dehydrated
- Hollow flower stalk makes a drinking straw
 mint mojito with rhubarb syrup and borage flowers in ice cubes





Annual Flowers

- From seed or seedlings: Zinnia, Cosmos, Nasturtium, Sunflower, Borage, Calendula, Lemon Gem Marigold
- Continued flowering, and all do well in containers
- Edible nasturtium, borage, calendula, gem marigold







Edibles - Fruit

- Strawberries, Sour Cherries, Plums need lots of sun
- Raspberries, Haskaps ok with part sun, some shade







Edibles - Fruit

- Haskaps birds love it, great for kids to harvest
- Mount Royal plum self-pollinating, Zone 4





Edibles - Veggies

- Cucumbers protection from wind, lots of sun, water
- Garlic for difficult spots this year with Giant Hyssop that self-seeded
- Cherry Tomatoes in self-watering container







Edibles - Veggies

- Easter Egg Radishes row cover to keep out root maggots
- Arugula and Lettuce keep cutting
- Zucchini needs sun, protection from wind







Native Plant Sources

- Edmonton Native Plant Society has plants, seeds and a listing of other groups
- Arnica Wildflowers –
 Callingwood Farmer's Market







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