

HELP SHOW THAT CHEROKEE COUNTY IS CREATING A POLLINATOR FRIENDLY COMMUNITY BY REGISTERING YOUR GARDEN WITH OUR POLLINATOR SPACES PROGRAM

C O N T A C T D E T A I L S

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Bee Kind

Cherokee



Guide to building a pollinator
friendly landscape and community

**TO REGISTER EMAIL
PHOTOS AND LIST OF
PLANTS TO:
JFUDER@UGA.EDU**

WHY POLLINATORS?

Pollination is the transfer of pollen from the male parts of a flower to the female parts of the same or different flower. This is necessary for the production of seed and fruit in many crops. Many insects such as flies, beetles, moths, and butterflies and wasps can be important pollinators. Bees outperform them all because of their dietary need for pollen and nectar, their hairy bodies that carry pollen, and their rapid flight from flower to flower.

Many factors have been implicated in bee decline, but scientists agree the most important factors include:

- parasitic Varroa mites
- viruses spread by Varroa mites
- pesticide exposure
- habitat and forage degradation

POLLINATOR HABITAT

- Provide nest building materials, including mud, tall grasses and waxy-leaved plants
- Try to leave significant areas permanently undisturbed for soil-nesting bees
- Many common turf weeds like henbit, clover and dandelion are excellent forage sources, consider leaving some for the bees
- Provide a water source like a shallow birdbath for bees to drink from
- Plant forage plants in large clusters of 5+ plants

PLANTING GUIDE

ANNUALS

- Zinnia
- Cosmo
- Celosia
- Sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus*)
- Calendula
- Basil

PERENNIALS

- Perennial Herbs: Mint, Thyme, Bee Balm, Catmint, Hyssop, Savory, Sage and more
- Blackeyed Susan
- Yarrow
- Coreopsis
- Purple Coneflower
- Salvias
- Wild Indigo (*Baptisia*)
- Asters
- Spiderwort
- Mountain Mint
- Sunflower (*Helianthus multiflorus*)
- Hardy Lantana
- Liatris
- Ironweed
- Joe-Pye Weed
- Penstemon

TREES & SHRUBS

- Fruits: Apple, Pear and Blueberries
- Redbud
- Willows
- Skip Laurel
- Rhododendrons
- Chaste Tree
- Crapemyrtle
- Glossy Abelia
- Buttonbush
- Summersweet
- River Birch
- Tulip Poplar
- Flowering Dogwood

BEST PRACTICES

- If you suspect insect damage in the landscape contact your Extension office to learn what caused it and if it is worth treating
- Pollinators are most active before noon, if you need to use an insecticide do so as late in the day as possible with a product with a short residual - No Powders!
- If applying insecticides or fungicides to turf, mow grass immediately before applying
- Don't apply pesticides to plants during bloom.

POLLINATOR SPACES PROGRAM

The University of Georgia has led research and education programs on honey bees for decades. In 2016 the Pollinator Spaces Project was created to recognize gardens and gardeners for the efforts in building and protecting pollinator habitat.

To get recognized simply send photos and a list of your plants to the Cherokee County Extension office and we will send you a Pollinator Spaces Program Certificate.

Chances are you already have many of the forage plants in your landscape. So get in touch with us so we can show Georgia and the rest of the country how "Bee Kind" Cherokee really is.