Native Sunny Plants

Plant for pollinators, clean water, and our earth

Alumroot
Prairie dropseed
Wild strawberry
Purple prairie clover
Narrow leafed coneflower
Purple coneflower
Butterfly milkweed
Wild bergamot
Stiff goldenrod

Pearly everlasting
Silky aster
Little bluestem
Pussytoes
Prairie smoke
Prairie onion
Milkweed
Giant hyssop
Leadplant

Find more info and an extended list of plants

bluethumb.org/lawns-to-legumes
bwsr.state.mn.us/l2l
monarchjointventure.org
When planting in a sunny spot, consider:

- **Leaving a spot of soil bare:** To support ground nesting pollinators (which make up 80% of native bees), keep an area of soil bare and mulch-free in a well-drained, ideally south-facing planting.

- **Using mulch sparingly:** Too much mulch can prevent the formation of pollinator habitats. If it is needed for weed suppression and erosion control, only apply mulch for the first few years until plants are established.

- **Creating overwintering areas:** When cutting back wildflower stems in the fall, leave standing stubble 12”-18” tall to provide nesting sites for stem nesting bees to lay their eggs in. This stubble will break down naturally with time.

- **Incorporating clean water:** Add bird baths, saucers, water features, or rocks with shallow indentations, and change the water frequently to prevent mosquito larvae from hatching. Pollinators need clean water.

- **Use this rule of thumb when selecting plants:**
  - **Full sun:** more than 6 hours of sunlight
  - **Part sun/shade:** between 3-6 hours of sunlight

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**Sunny and Low Garden for Pollinators**

This 10'x8' template was designed with drought-tolerant plant species. They are also excellent for low gardens, with most plants being under 24”, ranging to 36” in the center. Plants in this design are tough enough for a dry boulevard.