

Pollinator Garden Plant List

General Reno/Carson City Area

The following is a list of native plants that are a good choice for local pollinator gardens. These plants do well in the semi-desert climate of the Reno area, tolerating warm dry summers and cold winters. Choose a variety of plants with different flower colors and shapes and bloom periods that span the spring and summer. This list has been adapted from the Pollinator Partnership Intermountain Desert and Semi-desert Pollinator Garden Plant List. This is not a comprehensive list, but a jumping off point for those interested in starting a pollinator garden.

Trees and Shrubs:

Incorporating flowering shrubs and trees in your pollinator garden not only provide food for pollinators, but also shelter and protection for forbs and often food or other uses to humans.

Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos patula*)

Flower Color: white-pink

Bloom Period: April-June

Rubber Rabbitbrush (*Ericameria nauseosa*)

Flower Color: Yellow

Bloom Period: August-October

Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)

Flower Color: White

Bloom Period: May-June

Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)

Flower Color: White

Bloom Period: April-May

Elderberry (*Sambucus cerulea*)

Flower Color: White

Bloom Period: May-June

Perennial Flowers:

Rocky Mountain Bee Plant (*Cleome serrulata*) – this is a great late season plant that produces lots of flowers that attract bees and other pollinators.

Flower Color: Purple/Pink

Bloom Period: July-August

Firecracker Penstemon (*Penstemon eatonii*) – this bright, tubular flower is a great way to attract hummingbirds to your yard.

Flower Color: Red

Bloom Period: April-May

Rocky Mountain Penstemon (*Penstemon strictus*)

Flower Color: Blue

Bloom Period: May-June

Royal Penstemon (*Penstemon speciosus*)

Flower Color: Blue/Purple

Bloom Period: June-August

Umbrella Desert Buckwheat (*Eriogonum umbellatum*)

Flower Color: Yellow

Bloom Period: April-June

Great Plains Prickly Pear (*Opuntia polyacantha*)

Flower Color: Yellow/Pink

Bloom Period: May-July

Banana Yucca (*Yucca baccata*)

Flower Color: White

Bloom Period: May-July

Cinquefoil (*Potentilla gracilis*)

Flower Color: Yellow

Bloom Period: June-August

Showy Milkweed (*Asclepias speciosa*)

Flower Color: Pale Pink

Bloom Period: June-August

Common Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*)

Flower Color: Yellow

Bloom Period: June-September

Old Man's Whiskers (*Geum triflorum*)

Flower Color: Pink/Purple

Bloom Period: May-July