The foundation of any garden for pollinators is the plants, of course! But, for advanced pollinator garden creators we also invite you to consider the addition of other important elements for creating a habitat that provides for pollinators throughout their life cycles. These include structures like water fountains and bee boxes or more natural objects like large rocks, branches or tree stumps. Lastly, consider incorporating areas of bare earth where solitary bees can live, sleep and nest. The point is to start with what you have then supplement your designs with layers of extra pollinator habitat enhancements.

This 10’x10’ sunny garden is a low growing landscape. This plant selection features bloom times from early spring through the fall. Valley Violet maritime ceanothus (Ceanothus maritimus ‘Valley Violet’) is an early bloomer that provides great cover for insects, birds and other critters in your garden. Narrow-leaf milkweed (Asclepias fascicularis) has great nectar resources but is also a host plant for the monarch butterfly. You can manage the yarrow (Achillea millefolium) in two ways:
1. Deadhead spent flowers to encourage more flowering.
2. Leave the architecturally interesting flowers to offer seeds as food for the birds and other insects.
**BUILDING BIODIVERSITY**

The foundation of any garden for pollinators is the plants, of course! But, for advanced pollinator garden creators we also invite you to consider the addition of other important elements for creating a habitat that provides for pollinators throughout their life cycles. These include structures like water fountains and bee boxes or more natural objects like large rocks, branches or tree stumps. Lastly, consider incorporating areas of bare earth where solitary bees can live, sleep and nest. The point is to start with what you have then supplement your designs with layers of extra pollinator habitat enhancements.

This 10’x10’ shady garden is a mixture of shrubs and groundcovers. This plant selection features bloom times from early spring through late summer. The wood strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) flowers are great for pollinators and the fruit is a small, sweet treat for all garden visitors. California pipevine (*Aristolochia californica*) is pollinated by small but important fungus gnats and are the host plant of pipevine swallowtail butterflies. The bright, tubular flowers of hummingbird sage (*Salvia spathacea*) attract year-round and migrating hummingbirds. Larger shrubs like California coffeeberry (*Frangula californica*) provide important cover for pollinators and other small animals, and nesting areas for birds.
BUILDING BIODIVERSITY

The foundation of any garden for pollinators is the plants, of course! But, for advanced pollinator garden creators we also invite you to consider the addition of other, important parts for creating a habitat that provides for pollinators throughout their life cycles. These include structures like water fountains and bee boxes or more natural objects like large rocks, branches or tree stumps. Lastly, consider incorporating areas of bare earth where solitary bees can live, sleep and nest. The point is to start with what you have then supplement your designs with layers of extra pollinator habitat pieces.

This 5’x15’ sunny garden includes large shrubs and spreading herbaceous perennials. This plant selection features bloom times from early spring through early winter. In this design, we suggest pruning the Ray Hartman California Lilac (Ceanothus ‘Ray Hartman’) and toyon (Heteromeles arbutifolia) to be more tree-like. This maintains evergreen cover at a medium height while providing more room for other annual and perennial flowering plants below. California fuchsia (Epilobium canum) is a fall bloomer that is loved by most pollinators. Great Valley gum plant (Grindelia camporum) has defenses against bud herbivory but attracts many pollinators, while the seeds are an important food resource for birds.
The foundation of any garden for pollinators is the plants, of course! But, for advanced pollinator garden creators we also invite you to consider the addition of other, important parts for creating a habitat that provides for pollinators throughout their life cycles. These include structures like water fountains and bee boxes or more natural objects like large rocks, branches or tree stumps. Lastly, consider incorporating areas of bare earth where solitary bees can live, sleep and nest. The point is to start with what you have then supplement your designs with layers of extra pollinator habitat pieces.

This 5’x15’ shady garden is a mixture of small shrubs and herbaceous perennials that prefer part shade. This plant selection features bloom times from early spring through summer. While island alumroot (Heuchera maxima) has small flowers, they are perfect for tiny native pollinators. The vining California honeysuckle (Lonicera hispidula) attracts hummingbirds and can grow up through shrubs or on a trellis. While irises are popular cut flowers, plants like Douglas’s iris (Iris douglasiana) are great for attracting and feeding pollinators.