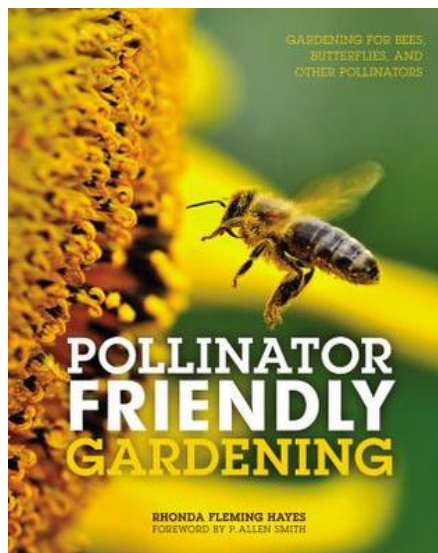




Pollinator Friendly Gardening: Gardening for Bees, Butterflies, and Other Pollinators

Rhonda Fleming Hayes

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Want to do your part in helping your local pollinators flourish? *Pollinator Friendly Gardening* makes it easy.

Are you interested in growing a naturally healthy garden? How about making sure your local environment helps bees, butterflies, and birds survive and thrive? If you are a beekeeper, are you looking for the ideal plants to keep your colony happy?

Pollinators such as monarch butterflies and bees are under threat, and more and more gardeners want to do all they can to create a hospitable space for them. That's where *Pollinator Friendly Gardening* comes in. It identifies the most visible and beloved pollinators: bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds, as well as some more unlikely candidates such as ants, wasps, and beetles. It then explains the intriguing synergy between plants and pollinators. This vital information makes it a unique sourcebook to share the ways that anyone can make a yard a more friendly place for pollinators.

Plant selection, hardscape choices, habitat building (both natural and manmade), and growing practices that give pollinators their best chance in the garden are all covered in detail. Plant lists organized by category, helpful tips, and expert spotlights make it a fun and easy book to read too.

Pollinator Friendly Gardening: Gardening for Bees, Butterflies, and Other Pollinators Details

Date : Published January 15th 2016 by Voyageur Press

ISBN : 9780760349137

Author : Rhonda Fleming Hayes

Format : Paperback 176 pages

Genre : Gardening, Nonfiction, Environment, Nature, Animals



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From Reader Review Pollinator Friendly Gardening: Gardening for Bees, Butterflies, and Other Pollinators for online ebook

Cara's Craftastic Creations says

Save the bees!

Michaeleen says

Loved the information on the pollinators and why it's important to consider them in our gardening practices. The author then provides very practical ways to adapt our gardens to improve outcomes for pollinators. Photos are awesome.

Susan says

This is an awesome book and fantastic resource for anyone wishing to garden in a pollinator-friendly (and indeed beneficial-insect-friendly way, e.g. also including biological control insects).

For me there was much to recommend this beautiful book.

- 1) it is truly beautiful with attractive, thoughtful, relevant photos throughout.
- 2) the book is overflowing with useful information about plants, habitat features, insects, birds, other pollinators, and pretty much every aspect of the yard/garden that might in any way have anything to do with pollinators (and really, which parts of a yard or garden would not be relevant to pollinators?).
- 3) Hayes bases her information on solid scientific information but also includes anecdotes and 'real life' situations.
- 4) Hayes writes in a reader-friendly, often amusing, way that is accessible and easy to understand even for those with little/no background on the topic but without ever 'dumbing down' the information.
- 5) Hayes discusses the problems with invasive species and considers the information and debates about introduced (non-invasive) ornamentals and about 'nativars'.
- 6) Hayes outlines the ideal types of plantings, settings, etc. but then also recognizes that not every garden every time is able (or necessary has the desire) to create the 'ideal' in her/his garden, so Hayes then makes suggestions on how to 'tweak' the idea to suit the situation while still remaining pollinator-friendly (e.g. putting pollinator plants in pots around a more formal water feature, how to situate grass in order to keep peace with neighbours, etc.).
- 7) Hayes included interviews with experts of various aspects of pollinator-friendly gardening, adding new voices and information from 'those in the know' (though Hayes herself is obviously expert and 'in the know' herself).

8) The book includes 'fun facts' and 'not so fun facts' to give snippets of important information in an accessible way.

9) The book covers an extremely important and timely topic.

For me there were only three small drawbacks in the book: i) Hayes only includes information in the imperial system (miles, feet, Fahrenheit). Yes, the book is written in the States, but it is sold outside that country, plus she is using scientific information. Science, and most countries outside the US use metric (and no I could not 'google it' while on the bus, in the park, or other areas without internet, but Hayes likely could have while writing her book). ii) Hayes frequently uses the expression 'manmade'. There really is no such thing as 'manmade'. It annoys me terribly when people use this misogynistic expression and surprises me to see it both well into the 21st Century and by a female writer. iii) Most importantly, like some of the other reviewers, I found the font to be much too small for comfortable reading. There were times when I chose a different book to take with me on my travels because I was unable to read this book comfortably on the bus, etc. But instead needed to be home, still, and with really good light to manage it.

Overall, a solid book that is an excellent resource for gardeners. I plan to buy a copy not just for my home shelves (I read a library copy) but also for my work shelves.

Hari says

The severe decline in the populations of two pollinators, Monarch butterflies and honeybees, has brought them to the forefront of media and public attention. Most of the other pollinators, however, continue to toil away with little to no notice or respect. To change people's mindset about "bugs," Hayes discusses the primary pollinators from honey and native bees to butterflies, moths, flies, wasps and beetles to non-insect pollinators—birds and bats. Topics covered include using native versus "alien" plants and nativars (cultivars of native plants), enhancing pollinator habitats, sustaining butterflies with larval host plants, allowing nesting sites for bees, providing liquids and shelter, and protecting pollinators while controlling pests. For inspiration and practical know-how from an easy-to-understand, non-judgmental source, this book is an excellent resource.

Tara Choate says

While wordy, I really liked this gardening book. Lots of good information. Light on planting plans, but heavy on lists.

Lisa says

Extremely helpful for establishing pollinator friendly gardens. Easy to follow. I enjoyed the interviews as well.

Penny Ramirez says

Good info on butterflies, bees & hummingbirds. Excellent planting suggestions, and stuff I hadn't read before on the types of plants that butterfly larvae need to feed on (not just nectar and flowers!).

Sherry says

This is guaranteed to provoke good pollinator-supporting action. Hayes writes with enthusiasm, using a mixture of science and plain language, and provides practical information regarding food, shelter, and habitat for pollinators. In a nonjudgmental way she calls for actions both modest and significant to motivate all gardeners. I will use this book as a reference.

Bettina Peters says

So helpful!

Kerry Shoji says

I really wanted to like this book, but I just couldn't get into it. Maybe it was the small typeface or maybe I was distracted by the holiday season.

I am a gardener and wanted to know how I could create a better garden for pollinators. I thought this would be the perfect book for that. It did have good information on lists of plants that attract pollinators, how to create pollinator-friendly habitat as well as how to protect pollinators while controlling pests through biological, cultural, chemical and physical controls. I particularly liked the IPM (integrated pesticide management) section on working with nature where the author advises gardeners that they may have to "adjust their expectations and also question what really constitutes genuine harm to their carefully tended gardens" and that many gardeners are conditioned by community standards as well as advertising to react quickly to any threat to their home landscape.

Susan says

I received this book for free through Goodreads Giveaways.

This book is a great approachable resource for anyone interested in attracting more pollinators to a landscape in efforts to make a difference in the plight of threatened pollinators. The author provides comprehensive information on numerous different pollinators, with many lists of plants that can be added to the garden to attract them. There are wonderful photos of many of these pollinators and plants. Finally, she presents the latest research findings of with experts in the field, along with lists of websites and books to consult for further information, and resources for plants, seeds, and other supplies.

It is very well laid-out for easy access to information. I will definitely be consulting this book often for help make planting choices in efforts to create an increasingly pollinator friendly garden.
