

THE BEST NATIVE PLANTS FOR TORONTO GARDENS

Gardening with plants native to your area has many advantages. They are adapted to the local climate and generally require less care and watering. They are also adapted to local insects and soils and don't need fertilizers and pesticides. Native plants provide seeds and berries for birds and nectar and pollen for beneficial insects, like bees and butterflies.

This list includes pollinator-friendly plants that are native to the Toronto-area. For more information about native plants and pollinator gardening, visit www.davidsuzuki.org/butterflyway.

PLANT SPECIES	SUN EXPOSURE	Butterfly Host Plant
Trout lily (<i>Erythronium americanum</i>)		
False Solomon's seal (<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>)		
Fairybells (<i>Disporum trachycarpum</i>)		
Red baneberry (<i>Actaea rubra</i>)		
Golden Alexanders (<i>Zizia aurea</i>)		
Virginia waterleaf (<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>)		
Wild geranium (<i>Geranium maculatum</i>)		
Fairybells (<i>Disporum trachycarpum</i>)		
Hairy beardtongue (<i>Penstemon hispitosus</i>)		
SUMMER FLOWERING		
Twinflower (<i>Linnaea borealis</i>)		
Blue-eyed grass (<i>Sisyrinchium montanum</i>)		
Wild lupine (<i>Lupinus perennis</i>)		
Canada anemone (<i>Anemone canadensis</i>)		
Nodding onion (<i>Allium cernuum</i>)		
Lance-leaved coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>)		
Pearly everlasting (<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>)		
Butterfly milkweed (<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>)		
Swamp milkweed (<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>)		
Blue vervain (<i>Verbena hastata</i>)		
Black-eyed Susan (<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>)		
Showy tick trefoil (<i>Desmodium canadense</i>)		

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Anise hyssop (<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>)	☀	
Virginia mountain mint (<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>)	☀	
Monarda (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>)	☀	
Bee balm (<i>Monarda didyma</i>)	☀ & ☁	
Dense blazing star (<i>Liatris spicata</i>)	☀	
Pale purple coneflower (<i>Echinacea pallida</i>)	☀	
Culver's root (<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>)	☀	
Cup plant (<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>)	☀	
Joe-pye weed (<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i>)	☀	
Fireweed (<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>)	☀	
Ironweed (<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>)	☀	
Boneset (<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>)	☀	
Great blue lobelia (<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>)	☀ & ☁	
Cardinal flower (<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>)	☀ & ☁	
Turtlehead (<i>Chelone glabra</i>)	☀	
Heath aster (<i>Sympphyotrichum ericoides</i>)	☀	
FALL	☀	
Stiff goldenrod (<i>Solidago rigida</i>)	☀	
New England aster (<i>Sympphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>)	☀	
Woodland sunflower (<i>Helianthus divaricatus</i>)	☀ & ☁ & ☁	

GRASS SPECIES	SUN EXPOSURE	Butterfly Host Plant
SUMMER	☀	
Big bluestem (<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>)	☀	
Blue grama grass (<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>)	☀	
Little bluestem (<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>)	☀	