

ABIDE A WHILE

GARDEN BOUTIQUE



All About Pollinators and Butterflies

What is a pollinator? Pollination is the transfer of pollen from one plant to another, thus a pollinator does the transferring. Pollinations come in many different forms - everything from you and me to bees, butterflies, wasps, birds, other insects and even small mammals. Water and wind can act like a pollinator as well.

So why are pollinators so important? Pollinators are not just for flowers and garden enjoyment. Pollinators provide pollination services an innumerable amount of different plant species and crops! Needless to say, they play a huge role in the world's food production. 1 out of every 3 bites of food you eat is there because of pollinators.

How To ATTRACT POLLINATORS AND BUTTERFLIES

- Having the right plants in your garden is the first step. To check out a full list of plants that attract butterflies, see our care sheet titled Plants for a Butterfly Garden.
- Having a variety of plants that bloom at different times of the year provides ample nectar production throughout the seasons.
- Some butterflies will only lay their eggs on certain plant, called host plants. You can see a list of these plants on our care sheet, Plants for a Butterfly Garden.

PEST CONTROL

When we begin to encounter unwanted pests in the garden, such as aphids and mealy bugs, our first instinct is to spray them away with a chemical repellent. However, those sprays are not good for pollinators. Spraying even with organics can still harm the pollinators. If you want to keep those pollinators happy in your garden, the best practice is to let nature run its course.