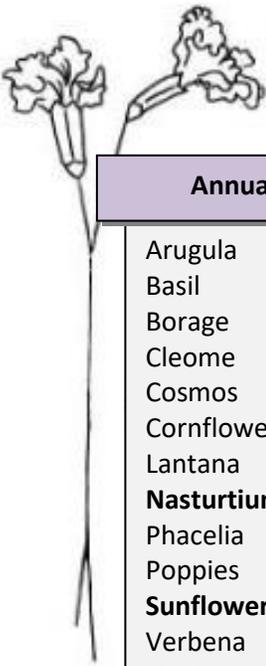# Plants that Feed Bees

To help bees make the most out of their active months, it's ideal to have plants that bloom at different times across the seasons. It is also ideal to have a variety of flower shapes – from flat to tubular – to accommodate bees with different tongue sizes. Be sure to prolong your plants' blooms by removing dead blooms and leaves. Plants in **bold print** can be seen at the Garden City Pollinator Habitat in River Pointe Park, 6015 N. Glenwood St., Garden City.

When choosing plants, it's important to be sure they have not been treated with _neonicotinoids (knee'-oh nicks)_, chemicals proven to harm bees. Ask your nursery or plant supplier, as they are not required to be labeled.
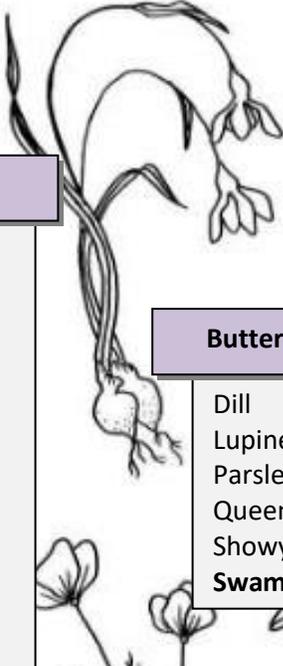
Biannual or Perennials

All spring bulbs
Alliums
Agastache
Asters
Berries
Blanket Flower
Blazing Star (Liatris)
Brunnera
Buckwheats
Catmint
Catnip
Caryopteris
Chives
Comfrey
Coreopsis
Dandelion
Echinacea
Goldenrod
Hyssop
Lavender
Lupine
Mallow
Mint
Monarda
Oregano
Penstemons
Rosemary
Rudbeckia
Sage (all types)
Salvia
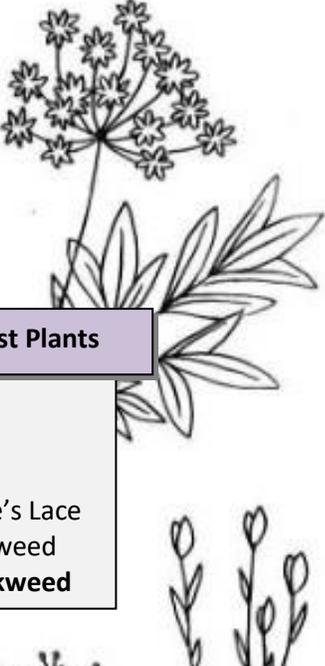**Sedum**
Sunflower
Thyme
Veronica (Speedwell)
Wild Rose

Annuals

Arugula
Basil
Borage
Cleome
Cosmos
Cornflower
Lantana
Nasturtium
Phacelia
Poppies
Sunflower
Verbena
Zinnia

Butterfly Host Plants

Dill
Lupine
Parsley
Queen Anne's Lace
Showy Milkweed
Swamp Milkweed

Trees and Shrubs

Apache Plume
Crabapple
Fernbush
Fruit Trees
Hawthorne
Linden
Maples
Redbud
Serviceberry
Snowberry
Currant

More Ways to Help Bees

1. Reduce or eliminate pesticide use. If you must use, follow directions to avoid bee harm. Even organic pesticides can harm bees.
2. Provide small areas without mulch (near flowers!) for nesting. Most native solitary bees nest in the ground.
3. Leave some leaf piles in the fall for hibernating bees.
4. Make a bee house for twig nesters or leave stems of perennial plants for natural nesting.
5. Provide a water source.

www.BeeCityUSA.org   For more information or to volunteer, contact us at pollenteer@gmail.com