

Plant for Pollinators



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Plant A Pollinator Garden

Look for the **Butterfly icon** on pictures of certain plants throughout this book. These are plants that attract beneficial insects and support the life cycle of butterflies. Try to get several in your garden that bloom during each season so you host the larvae and caterpillars as well as the full-grown nectar-seeking showstoppers. Find out more at www.calscape.org.

Gotta Get Bees

Consider creating a small patch of open space in your landscape design that accommodates solitary ground nesting bees and insects, especially if you have planted California native plants. By installing some nesting boxes, building an insect hotel, or just pushing some mulch aside for a few square feet, you can invite bees to show up.



Nature provides checks and balances in a garden, and you can attract insects and creatures that will help you maintain your garden without pesticides. Flowering plants rely on insects for pollination and thus reproduction. In turn, they provide for different insect species that feed on various plant parts and prey on other insects. Some bugs eat too much, destroy plants and spread diseases. Other bugs, beneficial insects, fight off the bad guys, keeping them in check by eating them or disrupting their reproductive process.

Use only organic methods, avoid chemical inputs, and actively cultivate a diversity of plants that provide resources at different times of the year, and you will be rewarded with a healthy and balanced mini-ecosystem.



Pollinator Attractors

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- 1 *Asclepias subulata*
Desert Milkweed
- 2 *Heuchera maxima*
Island Alum Root
- 3 *Eriogonum grande* var. *rubescens*
San Miguel Island Buckwheat
- 4 *Verbena lilacina* 'De la Mina'
Cedros Island Verbena
- 5 *Galvezia speciosa* 'Firecracker'
Island Bush Snapdragon