

UNIVERSITY PARK NATIVE GRASSLAND POLLINATOR MEADOW



Native Grasslands

Also known as meadows, grasslands are open land habitats mostly made up of grasses and herbaceous plants adapted to abundant sunlight and dry conditions. Grasslands have always been part of the natural heritage in Maryland and the region even though forests have always dominated the landscape. They are the preferred habitat for some plant and animal species which are becoming less common throughout the region because grasslands are now a scarce habitat.



Saving Our Native Grasslands

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Anacostia Watershed Society are restoring native grasslands by managing invasive plants, sporadically mowing, removing woody plants, and propagating grasses and wildflowers that are native to this region. This site is part of Prince George's County flood risk management levee system.

What Plant is This?



Purple Coneflower
Echinacea purpurea



Lanceleaf Coreopsis
Coreopsis lanceolata



Little Bluestem
Schizachyrium scoparium



Blackeyed Susan
Rudbeckia hirta



Partridge Pea
Chamaecrista fasciculata



Oxeye Sunflower
Heliopsis helianthoides



Marsh Blazing Star
Liatris spicata



Ohio Spiderwort
Tradescantia ohioensis



Aromatic Aster
Aster oblongifolius



Zigzag Aster
Aster prenanthoides



Tall White Beardtongue
Penstemon digitalis



Wild Senna
Senna hebecarpa



Mistflower
Eupatorium coelestinum



Butterfly Milkweed
Asclepias tuberosa



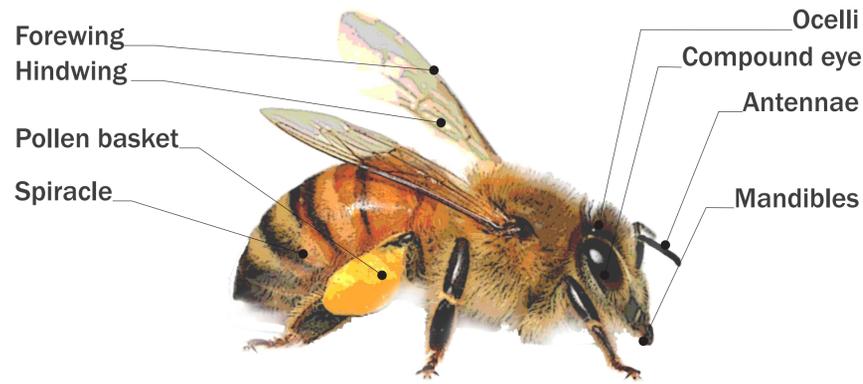
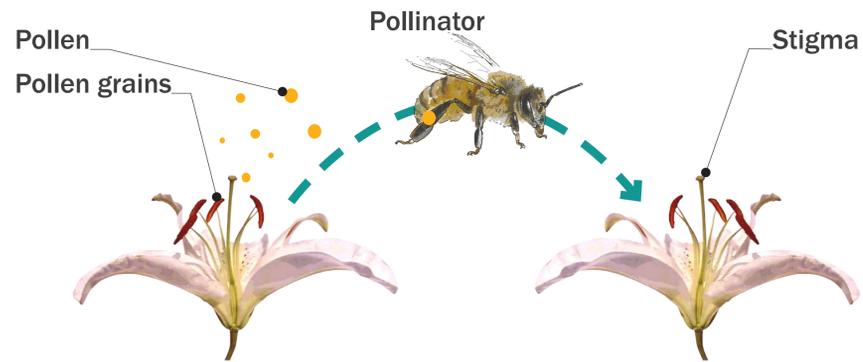
Blue False Indigo
Baptisia australis



Golden Alexanders
Zizia aurea



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What is Pollination?

Pollination of plants is the transfer of pollen from a flower's male anthers to a flower's female stigmas, which enables fertilization. Without this transfer of pollen many flower species could not reproduce. Bees, butterflies, moths and flies are among the insects that pollinate flowers. Flowers and their pollinators have evolved together over millions of years, and some insect species are only able to pollinate one specific plant species.

Bees

There are over 20,000 bee species worldwide and over 4,000 can be found in North America. There are approximately 430 species in Maryland. Young, developing bees need pollen as a protein source. Some bees have specialized structures on their bodies for pollen collection called "pollen baskets". Others have a scopa, bristly hairs under their abdomens that pollen can attach to so those pollen grains can be deposited onto the stigma of the next flower the bee visits.

Supporting Pollinators

Managed native grassland provides excellent habitat to pollinators like butterflies, honeybees, and native bumble bees. Many of the grasses and perennials provide a valuable source of food for caterpillars. More bees and butterflies mean more pollination which is critical for healthy ecosystems and a healthy watershed. Moreover, increased pollination in the area means more productive gardens and urban farms.

What Pollinator is This?



Bumble Bee
Bombus



Cellophane Bee
Colletes Latitarsis



Digger Bee
Melecta Pacifica



Green Bee
Agapostemon



Honey Bee
Apis Mellifera



Large Carpenter Bee
Xylocopa Virginica



Leaf Cutting Bee
Megachile



Little Black Bee
Panurginus



Long Horned Bee
Melissodes Communis



Masked Bee
Hylaeus



Mason Bee
Osmia



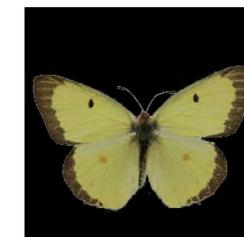
Mining Bee
Andrena



Silvery Checkerspot
Chlosyne nycteis



Monarch
Danaus plexippus



Clouded Sulphurs
Colias philodice



Common Wood Nymph
Cercyonis pegala

