



The new arbour and entrance planting of the Gosling Wildlife Gardens, funded and inspired by Pollination Guelph.



This collaboration was made possible through the generous donations of Pollination Guelph and the Gosling Foundation, in partnership with The University of Guelph Arboretum.

What species are growing?

Planting Plan

Clematis virginiana

Lilium philadelphicum

Penstemon digitalis 'Husker Red'

Amelanchier humilis

Penstemon hirsutus (in two masses)

Asclepius sullivantii

Gentiana andrewsii (three small groups)

Salix candida

Geum triflorum

Iris cristata (more to left of path)

Actea rubra

Thalictrum thalictroides (throughout bed)

Solidago caesia (in two masses)

Symphyotrichum urophyllum (in two masses)

Wisteria macrostachya 'Blue Moon' one at each post

Asclepius verticillata (more at left post)

Amorpha nana

Symphyotrichum cordifolium

In the fall of 2014, the installation of an arbour, donated by Pollination Guelph, at the entrance to The Arboretum's Pollinator Garden offered an opportunity to enhance the entrance plantings with shrubs and forbs that are native to eastern North America, with an emphasis on indigenous Ontario species.

The site serves as a natural transition point between the cultivated habitat of the Gosling Wildlife Gardens and the pollinator-supporting wilderness of meadow and forest in the surrounding Arboretum grounds.

Native species are rarely given an ornamental role, so we made our plant selections to not only increase biodiversity and support pollinators, but also showcase alternatives to the choices offered in the average garden centre. The result will provide a continuous source of nectar and pollen from spring until autumn, and a food source for many pollinators in their larval stages.

The new plantings balance texture, colour, form and scent to attract humans and pollinators alike, while offering a sheltered, welcoming and functional gathering space for educational and interpretive activities.

Which pollinators are supported?

Latin Name	Common Name	Flower Time	Colour	Pollinators
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Virgin's Bower	July/August	white	Bees, flies
<i>Lilium philadelphicum</i>	Wood Lily	June/August	orange	Eastern tiger swallowtail, butterflies, bees
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> 'Husker Red'	Husker Red Beardtongue	May/June	white/ maroon leaf	Bumble, digger and mason bees, butterflies
<i>Amelanchier humilis</i>	Low Serviceberry	May	white	Long tongued bees
<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>	Hairy Beardtongue	May/June	lavender/pink	Bumble, digger and mason bees, butterflies
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	Bottle Gentian	Sept/Oct	dark blue	Bees, flies
<i>Asclepius sullivantii</i>	Sullivant's Milkweed	June/July	pink	Bees, beetles, flies, butterflies, larval host
<i>Salix candida</i>	Sageleaf Willow	April/May	whitish leaf	Plasterer and andrenid bees, larval host
<i>Geum triflorum</i>	Prairie Smoke	May	pink/red	Bumble bees
<i>Iris cristata</i>	Dwarf Crested Iris	May	blue/lilac	Bumble and large carpenter bees, flies
<i>Actea rubra</i>	Red Bugbane	Flower-June / Berry -Aug	white flower, red berry	Bees, flies
<i>Thalictrum (syn Anemonella) thalictroides</i>	Rue Anemone	April/May	white	Bees, Syrphid flies, bee flies
<i>Solidago caesia</i>	Blue-Stemmed Goldenrod	August/Sept	yellow	Bumble, digger, leafcutter and sweat bees, butterflies, beetles
<i>Symphyotrichum urophyllum</i>	Arrowleaf Aster	August/Sept	white/ centre variable	Bees, butterflies, beetles
<i>Wisteria macrostachya</i> 'Blue Moon'	Blue Moon Kentucky Wisteria	June/August	lavender/blue	Hummingbird
<i>Asclepius verticillata</i>	Whorled Milkweed	July/Sept	green/white	Bees, wasps, moths, larval host
<i>Amorpha nana</i>	Dwarf False Indigo	May/July	purple/orange	Bees, butterflies
<i>Symphyotrichum cordifolium</i>	Heartleaf Aster	August/Sept	blue/violet	Bees, butterflies, beetles

Hummingbird photo by J. Brierley.
All other pollinator photos by Chris Early.