

Resources for Garden Ecology 101: Principles and Design

Elizabeth Elle, Simon Fraser University

The Ecosystems Services Framework

For more background on the concept, the [Wikipedia page](#) is actually quite good

The framework is applied by the [Government of Canada](#) and by [Metro Vancouver](#)

Vancouver Master Gardeners <https://mgabc.org/article/sustainable-gardening-tips>

Your own resources are great! Your [Sustainable Gardening Tip Sheet](#) is wonderful, and I'm glad to see the link to Linda Gilkeson's website, as she has so many resources available for sustainable and resilient gardening.

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation <https://www.xerces.org/>

I can't say enough good things about this organization. They have guides for pollinator conservation, beneficial insects, and IPM; very good planting guides; and even information about building bee houses. Some of the guides are highly technical (they also work with farmers) but very useful.

- [Protecting Pollinators at Home](#)
- [Habitat Planning for Beneficial Insects](#)
- [Nesting and Overwintering of Beneficial insects](#)

Xerces has a pollinator conservation resource centre specific for the Pacific Northwest:

<https://xerces.org/pollinator-resource-center/pnw>

Pollinator Partnership <https://www.pollinator.org/>

Includes information about pollinators in Canada and, under "resources", planting guides. They are based in the US primarily, and in Canada, based in Ontario. The guides are good but you should bring a dose of healthy skepticism to the plant lists.

Feed the bees <https://feedthebees.org/>

This local organization based at Earthwise Farm put together a [plant list by season](#) which I think is very useful for our growing region. There are other useful resources on their webpage too!

The National Wildlife Federation Plant Finder <https://nativeplantfinder.nwf.org/>

The NWF in the US has developed a list of native plants (in collaboration with Doug Tallamy of “Nature’s Best Hope”) that have high wildlife value (food for caterpillars that feed the birds!). You need to set a zip code, so try Seattle’s: 98101

The Canadian Wildlife Federation <https://cwf-fcf.org/en/>

Although based very much in central Canada’s ecosystem, there is good information about conservation and how your [gardening practices can support wildlife](#). There is also a good handout on [Natural Insect Control](#).

The Audubon Society <https://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds>

A plant list for birds, also US-based (so use the Seattle zip code). Goes beyond food needs that are in the National Wildlife Federation to include nesting requirements.