

**Summary of Pollinator Friendly Plants per Season (non-exhaustive list)**

**Early Spring:**

- Snowdrop (bulb planted in Autumn)
- Crocus (bulb planted in Autumn)
- Muscari (bulb)
- Bluebells (bulb)
- Wallflowers
- Aubretia
- Primrose
- Lungwort
- Dandelion
- Hazel (Hedgerow species)
- Blackthorn (Hedgerow species)
- Willow (Tree)
- Hazel (Tree)
- Elder (Tree)
- Whitebeam (Tree)
- Rowan (Tree)
- Juneberry (Tree)
- Barberry (bush)
- Quince (bush)

**All Spring:**

- Rosemary
- Dandelion
- Willow (Hedgerow)
- Blackthorn (Hedgerow)
- Hawthorn (hedgerow)
- Broom (hedgerow)
- Wild Cherry (hedgerow)
- Mahonia (shrub)
- Pillar Crab (tree)
- Callery Pear (tree)
- Rock Cress
- Thrift
- Aubretia
- Spurge
- Hellebore
- Candytuft
- Lamium
- Heather (shrub)
- Hebe (shrub)
- Pieris (shrub)
- Blueberry (shrub)

- Forget me not

**Late Spring/Early Summer:**

- Arabis (Rock Cress)
- Forget me Not
- Evening primrose
- Dandelion
- Willow (hedgerow)
- Blackthorn (hedgerow)
- Hawthorn)
- Broom (hedgerow)
- Wild cherry (hedgerow)
- Wild Privet (hedgerow)
- Crab Apple (tree)

**Summer:**

- Borage
- Yarrow
- Bistort
- Phlox
- Spearmint
- Cinquefoil
- Loosestrift
- Hyssop
- Chamomile
- Bellflower
- Knapweed
- Clover
- Sunflowers
- Cosmos
- Globe Thistle
- Sweet William
- Night Scented Stock
- Poppy
- Fennel
- Marigold
- Cornflower
- Sweet Alyssum
- Nasturtium
- Dandelion
- Honeysuckle
- Thyme

- Raspberry
- Lavendar (French and English, English hardier)
- Bramble (hedgerow)
- Wild privet (hedgerow)
- Crab apple (hedgerow)
- Elder (hedgerow)
- Rowan (hedgerow)
- Whitebeam (hedgerow)
- Wild rose (hedgerow)
- Guelder Rose (hedgerow)
- Sea Kale
- Cone Flower
- Fleabane
- Globethistle
- Wallflower
- Cranesbill
- Avens
- Mallow
- Scabious

**Autumn:**

- Yarrow
- Aster
- Marigold
- Cornflower
- Dandelion
- Nasturtium
- Knapweed
- Clover
- Bramble (Hedgerow)
- Ivy (Hedgerow)
- Honeysuckle
- Gorse
- Honeysuckle
- Bugbane
- Michaelmas Daisy
- Trailing bellflower
- Autumn Oxeye
- Autumn Sage

**Winter:** Gorse, Winter Jasmine, Winter Aconite, Winter Crocus, Hellebore (late Winter), Vibernum shrub

Useful and comprehensive guide to trees/herbs/flowers beneficial to pollinators:

[Pollinator-friendly-planting-code-temporary-draft.pdf \(biodiversityireland.ie\)](https://biodiversityireland.ie/pollinator-friendly-planting-code-temporary-draft.pdf)

Useful booklet on all aspects of Wildlife Gardening:

<https://laois.ie/wp-content/uploads/Garden-Wildlife-Booklet-WEB-17MB.pdf>

Foods eaten by Red Listed Bee Species in Dublin:

- Large Carder Bee (*Bombus muscorum*):
  - 'Near threatened' conservation status in Red Data Book.
  - Needs food within 100m of nest site (bare soil with some moss/leaves)
  - Listed in latest 2021-2025 All Ireland Pollinator Plan as requiring action
    - Favourite foods:
      - Red clover/White Clover
      - Knapweed
      - Dandelion
      - Kidney Vetch (particularly loves this)
      - Birds Foot Trefoil
      - Lavender
      - Vetch
      - Phacelia



Large Carder Bee. Taken from [www.sustainableskerries.com](http://www.sustainableskerries.com)

- Buffish Mining Bee (*Andrena nigroaenia*) :
  - 'Vulnerable' conservation status in Red Data Book.
  - Early flight period from early Spring to Summer and female builds nest in well drained ground (<http://www.habitas.org.uk/priority/species.asp?item=9636>).
  - Its nest used by cleptoparasite and 'Endangered' Gooden's Nomad Bee (*Nomada goodeniana*).
  - Feeding on *Escallonia* and *Berberis* in Baldoyle Treatment Plant



Vulnerable Buffish Mining Bee (Photo M. Stack) Vulnerable Gooden's Nomad Bee (Photo M. Stack)

**Some Honeybee friendly plants:**



**Rosemary.**

- Evergreen. Bushy shrub.
- Flowering starts spring but occurs at different times of year also.
- Full sun
- Exposed or sheltered.



**Arabis (Rock Cress):**

- Evergreen. Annual or perennial. Mat forming.
- Flowers late spring/early summer with white, pink or purple flowers.
- Full sun. Exposed or sheltered.
- Well drained soil.



**Borage:**

- Annual or perennial.
- Blue flowers that flower over long period in summer.
- Full sun or partial shade.
- Well drained soil.



**Candytuft:**

- Annual or perennial evergreen small shrub
- White, pink or purple flowers
- Full sun, exposed or sheltered.
- Well drained soil.



**Wallflowers:**

- Apricot variety is evergreen perennial.
  - Flowers from Spring to summer and sometimes into Winter.
  - Full sun.
  - Exposed or Sheltered.
- Well drained.

**Some Bumblebee friendly plants:**

**Bergamot (bee balm):**



- Summer to early Autumn flowering
- Can be annuals or clump forming perennials
- Full sun, exposed or sheltered.
- Moist, well drained soil.
- Avoid over-wet in Winter or drying out in Summer

**Knapweed:**



- Herbaceous perennial
- Purple/pink flower Summer to early Autumn
- Full sun and exposed.
- Well drained soil.

**Lungwort:**



- Herbaceous or semi-evergreen perennial
- Blue flowers in Spring
- Full shade or partial shade and sheltered.
- Moisture and well drained.

**Snapdragon:**



- Sunny position
- Any garden soil

**Some plants for Hoverflies (pollinators) and beneficial insects:**



**Pot Marigold:**

- Annuals or perennials that flower in Summer and Autumn
- Full sun or partial shade
- Exposed or sheltered
- Well drained soil



**Cornflower:**

- Blue flower June to September
- Full sun in sheltered or exposed location
- Well drained soil



**Sweet Alyssum (Snowdrift):**

- Annuals or perennials
- Low spreading with white flowers in Summer
- Full sun in sheltered or exposed location
- Well drained soil



**Coriander:**

- Hardy annual that lives in sun or partially shaded location
- Susceptible to slugs so use bio-control
- Sow seed early Summer
- Damp soil but not over-wetting or do not let dry out



**Fennel:**

- Biennial or short-lived perennial
- Full sun or partial shade in sheltered location
- Moist but well drained soil.



**Nasturtium:**

- Annual that grows in sun in well drained soil
- Flowers in Summer through Autumn
- Edible petals

**Other flowers that provide nectar and pollen:**

**Yarrow:**



- Perennial that can live in grass, waste areas and roadside locations
- Numerous flowerheads from June to November

**Californian Poppy:**



- Hardy annuals
- Flowers in Summer
- Sunny location in well drained soil

**Lovage:**



- Perennial herb
- Sunny or partially shaded location
- Rich, deep, moist soil

**Thyme:**



- Warm sunny location
- Well drained soil. Will rot in winter if ground too wet.
- Thrives in pots

**Fuschia:**



- Deciduous and bushy
- Full sun or partial shade
- Sheltered location in well drained, moist soil.



## **Butterflies and Moths:**

### **Verbena:**



- Full sun, well drained soil
- Flowers June-September
- Tall up to 2m
- Sunny, sheltered, well drained

### **Aubretia:**



- Perennial low growing evergreen
- Forms mat of flowers, good for 'tumbling' over effect
- Hardy and will grow in sun or partial shade
- Well drained soil and drier conditions

### **Michelmas daisy:**



- Perennial in white, blue, purple and pink
- Well drained soil
- Sun or partial shade

### **Sweet Williams:**



- Biennial in pink, white, red and purple
- Sunny or shaded location
- Summer flowers

### **Night Scented Stock:**



- Can be annual, perennial or subshrub
- White, purple or pink flowers in summer
- Full sun and sheltered location
- Moist, well drained soil

## Seed Producing flowers for birds:

### **Forget-me-Not:**



- Annual, perennial or biennial that flowers in Spring and early Summer
- Semi-evergreen and bushy
- Partial shade in exposed or sheltered location
- Moist but well-drained soil

### **Sunflower:**



- Annual that flowers in August
- Small (teddy bear) or tall (American Giant) varieties
- Full sun in well drained soil

### **Evening Primrose:**



- Herbaceous perennial that flowers from late Spring to late Summer
- Like full sun in sheltered locations on well-drained soil

### **Cosmos**



- Half-hardy annual
- Pink or white petals on flowers in Summer
- Like full sun in sheltered location on moist but well-drained soil

### **Globe Thistle:**



- Clump-forming perennial
- Blue-grey to blue flower heads mid to late Summer
- Like full sun or partial shade in exposed or sheltered areas
- Moist but well-drained soil

### **Pheasant's Grass (*Stipa grandiflora*)**



- Clump forming
- Purple feather flower heads June-Sept.
- Full sun/partial shade
- Perennial/evergreen
- Late summer/early Autumn seeds eaten by Finches

### **Teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*)**



- Can grow to 3m in height
- July purple flowers
- Biennial

**Wildlife friendly climbers:**



1.



2.



3.

Ivy: *Hedera helix* Evergreen Climber. 1: 'Teardrop'. 2: 'Maple Leaf'. 3: Birdsfoot.



Honeysuckle. Evergreen climber (different varieties have different colour flowers)



Wisteria (various). Deciduous. Flowers Spr./Summ.



Clematis. Deciduous climber. Different varieties have different coloured flower.



Winter Jasmine. Flowers Winter and Spring.