

#### CREATING A POLLINATOR ENVIRONMENT

# WITH NATIVE PLANTS



Colorado's ecosystems are rich and diverse, but many pollinators and wildlife face challenges due to habitat loss and climate changes. One powerful way to help is by incorporating native plants into your garden. These plants are well-adapted to local conditions and provide food and shelter for wildlife, particularly Colorado pollinators like bees, butterflies and birds.

#### WHY NATIVE PLANTS MATTER

#### **ECOSYSTEM SUPPORT**

 Native plants contribute to a balanced ecosystem, offering the ideal resources for local pollinators and wildlife. Non-native species may not provide the necessary nectar, seeds or shelter that native species do.

## WATER CONSERVATION

 Many native plants are drought-resistant, reducing the need for excessive watering, which is crucial in Colorado's dry climate.

#### LOW MAINTENANCE

 Once established, native plants often require less fertilizer, pesticide and care compared to non-native plants, making them a sustainable choice.

#### TIPS FOR INCORPORATING NATIVE PLANTS

# START SMALL

• Incorporate native plants into an existing garden or set aside a portion of your yard for a native garden.

#### MIX AND MATCH

• Use a variety of plants that bloom at different times to provide year-round resources for pollinators.

## LEARN LOCAL

 Explore resources like the Colorado Native Plant Society to find species specific to your region.

