

Wild About Flowers



Blanket flower
Gaillardia aristata



Wild geranium
Geranium sp.



Milkweed
Asclepias sp.



Prairie coneflower
Ratibida sp.



Aster
Aster sp.



Blue-eyed grass
Sisyrinchium sp.



Beardtongue
Penstemon sp.



Bunchberry
Cornus canadensis



Sunflower
Helianthus sp.



Vervain
Verbena sp.



Gentian
Gentiana sp.



Wild onion
Allium sp.



Goldenrod
Solidago sp.



Columbine
Aquilegia sp.



Foamflower
Tiarella sp.



Harebell
Campanula rotundifolia



Evening primrose
Oenothera sp.



Shooting star
Dodecatheon sp.



Camas
Camassia sp.

Our native wildflowers should not be considered weeds. In fact, many sport gorgeous blooms that add a brilliant and welcome splash of colour to any garden. Since Canada boasts such an incredible diversity of native flowers, you'll inevitably find a species that fits, whether you have a sun, shade, bog, or rock garden.

Native wildflowers are more than just decorative. They are adapted to the local environment and therefore require less care in the form of fertilizer, irrigation, or protection from pests. Native plants are also better suited to meet the needs of local wildlife than exotic flowers, of which many have been bred for showiness at the cost of fertility and good health. Some pollinators are entirely dependent on the availability of a

specific native plant for their survival. The Karner blue butterfly, for example, is endangered because of the disappearance of its larval host plant, wild lupine. By choosing plants native to your region, you can help support local wildlife.

The beautiful wildflowers shown here are just a small sample of the many found across Canada. When selecting species for your garden, ensure that they are native to your region and not considered noxious in your area.

One final word of caution: do not collect plants from the wild. This puts additional pressure on plants already threatened through habitat loss. For more help, please see the plant encyclopedia and the native plant suppliers list on our Wild About Gardening Web site at www.wildaboutgardening.org.

Wildlife Benefits:

-  nectar and/or pollen for pollinators
-  nectar for hummingbirds
-  butterfly larval plant
-  food source for birds