



**Pollinator plant design for containers**  
created by Trillium Garden Design and [Pollinator Friendly Alliance](#)

### Possible Plants:

**3-4 ft Tall:** *Liatris Aspera* (Rough Blazing star-late), *Asclepias Incarnata* (swamp milkweed-summer), *Verbena stricta* (Hoary Vervain-early to late summer), *Agastache foeniculum* (Anise Hyssop-Summer to Fall),

**2-3 ft Medium Ht.:** *Achillea millefolium* (Common Yarrow, summer-late), *Asclepias Tuberosa* (butterfly milkweed – summer), *Rudbeckia Hirta* (Black-eyed Susan-Summer), *Coreopsis lanceolata* (coreopsis-early to summer), *Iris Versicolor* (blue flag-early), *Echinacea Purpurea* (coneflower-summer), *Monarda Fistulosa* (bee balm-summer to late), *Amorpha Canescens* (Leadplant-summer), *Symphayotrichum oolentagienense* (Sky blue Aster, late)

**1-2 ft Short** (fillers) *Anemone canadensis* (Canada Anemone-summer), *Pulsatilla vulgaris* (pasque flower – early), *Geium triflorum* (Prairie Smoke-early), *Heuchera richardsonii* (alum root-summer), *Polemonium reptans*(Jacobs Ladder-early), *Geranium maculatum* (wild geranium-early)

**Grasses & sedges for volume and hang over side, some sedges have tiny little blooms early**  
*Sporobolus heterolepis* (prairie dropseed), Little Bluestem (grass), Sedges (early to summer bloom), *Athyrium filix-femina* (lady ferns), *Juncus* (rush-early to summer bloom)

Since these plants have varying bloom times, you may want to include a few annuals to be sure the color is continuous and/or carefully plan your plant selection based on the bloom times.

This is a great online resource to see plants:

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder>

and here:

<https://www.prairienursery.com/>

**Attached is our supplier list.** Please be sure to purchase plants that have NOT BEEN TREATED WITH SYSTEMIC INSECTICIDES. Many greenhouses do treat their flowers. If a pollinator or bird eats the pollen, nectar or any part of the treated plant, they will perish. Make it a fun day to visit these floral suppliers. You may need to visit more than one supplier to obtain the desired plants, or change your design on the fly with a replacement if the first supplier does not have what you want. This is common

**An example of a design for a container from outside to inside:**

Pennsylvania sedge – bright green

Prairie Smoke – pink and/OR wild geranium – pink/purple

Bee balm – red/pink and/OR iris versicolor – blue and/OR echinacea – dark pink

Blazing star – pink and/OR Anise hyssop - purple