



# 100 POLLINATOR GARDEN CHALLENGE FOR THE WASHINGTON AREA

YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE CHALLENGE BY PROVIDING FOOD, WATER, COVER, AND PLACES TO RAISE YOUNG FOR **POLLINATORS** LIKE BEES, BUTTERFLIES, MOTHS, BATS, AND HUMMINGBIRDS.

The Washington in Bloom Committee is deeply concerned about the decline of monarch butterfly and pollinator populations. The North American monarch population has declined by more than 90% in the past two decades. Therefore, the Washington in Bloom Committee is committed to help restore habitat for the monarch and encourage our citizens to do the same, so that these magnificent butterflies will once again flourish across the continent. And with 80% of our plants needing pollination to produce food, we cannot express the importance of these pollinators enough.

How to get started: Find an area in your yard that receives at least six hours of sun. The bed should be planted with natives (Butterfly Weed, Common Milkwood, Swamp Milkwood, Asclepias Baptisia, Liatris, Monarda, Penstemon, Showy Goldenrod, Aromatic Aster, Courlytop Ironwood, and Golden Alexander); perennials (Indian Blanket, Purple Coneflower, Joe Pye Weed, Scarlet Sage, Tithonia Torch, Columbine, Garden Phlox, Shasta Daisy, Coneflowers, Coreopsis, Catmint, Salvia, Hyssop, and Sedum); annuals (Alyssum, Zinnias, Marigolds, Verbena, Sunflowers); and shrubs (Ninebark, Viburnums, and Butterfly Bush). The area should also have a water feature (bird bath, small fountain, or small pond). In addition it is important to have oak trees in the area and flowering shrubs to provide food and shelter. If making a new bed is not an option, incorporating pollinator plants into existing beds will still qualify for the pollinator garden challenge. **Anyone purchasing a pollinator garden kit from Hillermann's will receive free pollinator T-shirt.** The 100 Pollinator Garden Challenge is part of the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge. For more information go to [millionpollinator-gardens.org](http://millionpollinator-gardens.org).



To register your garden for certification and receive a certificate, bring in a picture of your garden to the Washington Parks and Recreation Department, 1220 S. Lakeshore Dr. For more information call 636-390-1080 or go to [www.ci.washington.mo.us](http://www.ci.washington.mo.us). The Parks Department will also have metal "Certified Pollinator Garden" signs available for your garden at \$15 each.

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## YARD OF THE MONTH CONTEST

The Washington in Bloom Committee sponsors the *Yard of the Month Contest*, which runs May through October. The judges will assess any area on the property visible from the street, looking for the best curb appeal (lawn, shrubs, flowers, and trees). Sponsors provide prizes for the monthly winners. Bonus points will be given to landscapes that include the best use of pollinating plants, as well as the best use of the City colors --

RED, YELLOW, AND MIDNIGHT BLUE

To be eligible, the property must be within the corporate limits of the City of Washington. For more information or to nominate a property, please go to the City's website at [www.ci.washington.mo.us](http://www.ci.washington.mo.us) to download a nomination form.

*The City of Washington celebrates*

**Earth Day**  **Arbor Day**

**Saturday, April 23, 2016 • 10 am - 3 pm**  
**at Hillermann Nursery and Florist**

**Schedule:**

Joyce Oberle	Monarch Butterfly Presentation	10:00
Washington Garden Club	Story Time	10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:30
Mayor Sandy Lucy	Tree City USA & Monarch Pledge	11:00
Wes Maire	Mulching Demonstration	11:30
Darryl Coates	Pollinators - Bees & Bats Presentation	1:00

(Land and Facilities Manager of Hermann Farms)

Throughout the day (10:00-3:00)-

*Washington in Bloom* Information Booth, *Urban Forestry Council* Information Booth, *Grow Native* Information Booth, and *Washington Parks Dept.* Kids' Activities

As part of the Washington Urban Forestry Council's "Plant an Oak Tree" Campaign, Hillermann's will be giving away 100 free Swamp White Oak trees. There will be special pricing on Bur Oaks and Northern Red Oaks during this celebration, as well as, other Earth Day specials.

Oaks historically represent a large percentage of tree species found in the forests and woodlands of our region. Among their many benefits, which include longevity, stateliness and strength, is their role as host to a greater number of beneficial, leaf-eating insect larvae than any other genus of plants. These insects are critically important as food for song birds and other cherished wildlife. Along with their environmental benefits, oaks are second to none for beauty and form. Many tree species grow fast but soon begin to decline and require significant, expensive trimming or removal, but oaks can grow for many generations.

The tree list below represents recommended trees for enhancing Washington's public facilities, businesses and private properties:

**White Oak** - This is one the stateliest of the oaks and can live up to 300 years. It can grow in a wide variety of environmental conditions from rich loamy soil to dry uplands.

**Bur Oak** - This is a beautifully shaped, large spreading oak associated with rich bottom soils. It produces the largest of all the acorns and is an excellent source of food for wildlife.

**Swamp White Oak** - This oak is associated with better soils and is especially noted for its longevity.

**Chinkapin Oak** - This oak is associated with poorer soils of upland woods, glades and along bluffs. When grown in the open, Chinkapin Oaks are know for their short trunks and broad spreading crown.

**Northern Red Oak** - This oak is considered by many to be the most beautiful of the red oaks. It is known for its beautiful fall red color. Although often found as an upland species, it prefers better soils.

**Shumard Oak** - This tree is in the red oak group and is a potentially large tree most often found in rich bottomland soils.