Planning your garden – think like a pollinator.

Go Native. *Pollinators are "best" adapted to local, native plants, which often need less water than ornamentals.*

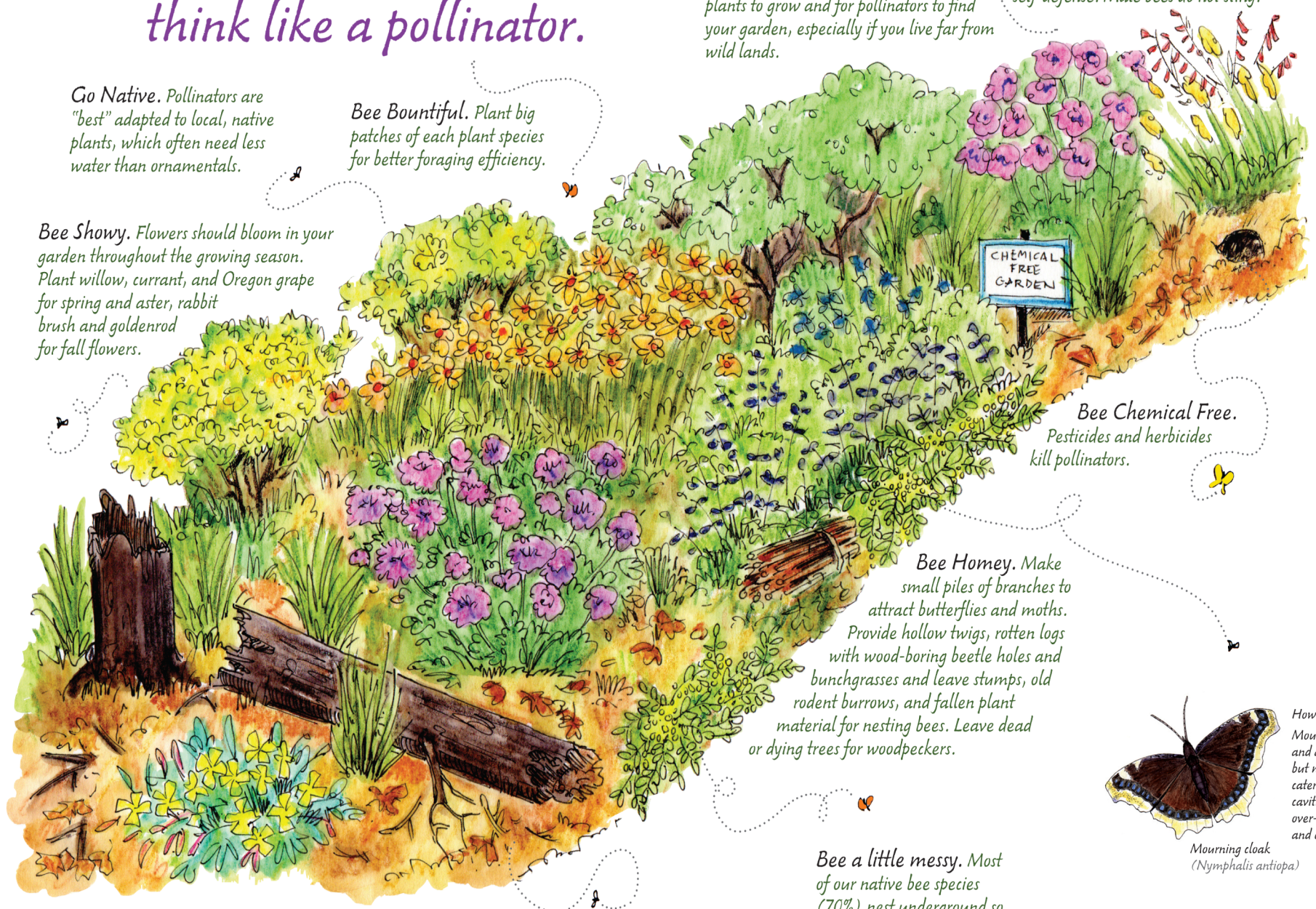
Bee Bountiful. *Plant big patches of each plant species for better foraging efficiency.*

Bee Patient. *It takes time for native plants to grow and for pollinators to find your garden, especially if you live far from wild lands.*

Bee Gentle. *Most bees will avoid stinging and use that behavior only in self-defense. Male bees do not sting.*

Bee Aware. *Observe pollinators when you walk outside in nature. Notice which flowers attract bumble bees or solitary bees, and which attract butterflies.*

Bee Showy. *Flowers should bloom in your garden throughout the growing season. Plant willow, currant, and Oregon grape for spring and aster, rabbit brush and goldenrod for fall flowers.*



Bee Friendly. *Create pollinator-friendly gardens both at home, at schools and in public parks. Help people learn more about pollinators and native plants.*

Bee Chemical Free. *Pesticides and herbicides kill pollinators.*

Bee Sunny. *Provide areas with sunny, bare soil that's dry and well-drained, preferably with south-facing slopes.*

Bee Homey. *Make small piles of branches to attract butterflies and moths. Provide hollow twigs, rotten logs with wood-boring beetle holes and bunchgrasses and leave stumps, old rodent burrows, and fallen plant material for nesting bees. Leave dead or dying trees for woodpeckers.*

How do butterflies survive the winter? *Mourning cloak, Milbert's tortoiseshell, and anglewing spend the winter as adults, but most butterflies overwinter as eggs, caterpillars or pupae. In your garden, tree cavities, leaf litter and branch piles shelter over-wintering butterflies from predators and cold weather.*

Mourning cloak (Nymphalis antiopa)

Bee a little messy. *Most of our native bee species (70%) nest underground so avoid using weed cloth or heavy mulch.*

Think safe harbor. *Domestic cats can kill hummingbirds. Please keep them indoors.*

Bee Diverse. *Plant a diversity of flowering species with abundant pollen and nectar and specific plants for feeding butterfly and moth caterpillars.*

SIERRA CLUB
GEORGIA CHAPTER

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POLLINATORS ARE IN PERIL DUE TO

Habitat loss
Misuse of pesticides
Diseases

SAVE OUR POLLINATORS

You can help our pollinator insects and the ecosystems that depend upon them by creating pollinator-friendly flower gardens in your yard, neighborhood, place of business, a school, church, or public area.
Every space, no matter how big or small, is important to making a difference to the critters that need our help. Adding native plants into our yards, shrinking our turf lawns, avoiding pesticides, removing invasive non-native plants, and convincing others to do the same are all small steps that add up to really big impacts for the ecosystem around us.

For more resources, list of plants, or general overview please scan the QR or visit us at https://www.sierraclub.org/georgia/middle-chattahoochee/pollinator-project

WHY PLANT FOR POLLINATORS?

Did you know that 30% of what you eat and drink is provided to you by pollinators?

Over 150 crops in the U.S including blueberries, strawberries, apples, oranges, squash, tomatoes, pumpkins, & almonds depend on pollination by butterflies, moths, flies, ants, beetles, honey bees & native bees.

Without pollinators, we would have a 50% loss of fruits & vegetables in our produce aisles - even dairy products would be adversely affected since they pollinate many of the plants livestock consume.

RESOURCES

Attracting Native Pollinators
www.xerces.org/books

Pollinators Under Pressure
https://www.pollinatorsunderpressure.org/

The Great Southeast Pollinator Census
https://gsepc.org/

Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard by Doug Tallamy

It's as simple as mixing a few native pollinator-friendly plants into your flower beds.

Butterflies Honey Bees Native Bees

Plant a Garden for Pollinators

Middle Chattahoochee Sierra Club

Moths Bumble Bees Hummingbirds