

Eastern Nebraska Flowers for Pollinators

Insects critical to our food and ecosystems depend on an abundant array of spring, summer and autumn pesticide-free blooms. Here are some species to consider.

Spring Top Garden Picks



Ohio Spiderwort
Tradescantia ohiensis



Foxglove Penstemon
Penstemon digitalis



Threadleaf Bluestar
Amsonia hubrichtii



Wild Columbine
Aquilegia canadensis



Woodland Phlox
Phlox divaricata



Dwarf Blue Indigo
Baptisia minor



Rough blazing star
Liatris aspera

Diversify! More to Try

Sun	6" to 18" high	Scientific Name
○	Pasque flower	<i>Pulsatilla patens</i>
○	Prairie smoke	<i>Geum triflorum</i>
○	Basket of gold*	<i>Aurinia saxilis</i>
○	Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>
◐	Woodland phlox	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>
◐	Creeping Jacob's ladder	<i>Polemonium reptans</i>
◐	Virginia bluebells	<i>Mertensia virginiana</i>
◐	Celandine poppy	<i>Stylophorum diphyllum</i>
◐	Snowdrop anemone*	<i>Anemone sylvestris</i>

Sun	18" to 36" high	Scientific Name
○	Foxglove penstemon	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> (or any Penstemon)
○	Ohio spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i> (or any spiderwort)
○	Catmint*	<i>Nepeta faassenii</i>
◐	Dwarf blue indigo	<i>Baptisia minor</i>
◐	Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>
◐	Solomon's seal	<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>
◐	Prairie alumroot	<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>
◐	Wild columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>

Sun	36" to 48" high	Scientific Name
○	Threadleaf bluestar	<i>Amsonia hubrichtii</i>
○	Blue indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>
◐	Eastern bluestar	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>

○ = full sun ◐ = part shade ◑ = full sun to part shade

*Indicates a species not native to the U.S.



Eastern Nebraska Flowers for Pollinators



Scarlet beebalm
Monarda didyma

Early Summer Top Garden Picks



Missouri Primrose
Oenothera macrocarpa



Lanceleaf Coreopsis
Coreopsis lanceolata



Purple Prairie Clover
Dalea purpurea



Pale Purple Coneflower
Echinacea pallida



Scarlet Beebalm
Monarda didyma



Culver's Root
Veronicastrum virginicum

Diversify! More to Try

Sun	6" to 18" high	Scientific Name
○	Veronica 'First Match'*	<i>Veronica longifolia</i> (or any Veronica)
○	Missouri primrose	<i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i>
○	Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
◐	Calamint*	<i>Calamintha nepeta</i>

Sun	18" to 36" high	Scientific Name
○	Lance-leaf Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> (or any Coreopsis)
○	Butterfly milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
○	Purple prairie clover	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>
○	Pale purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>
○	Spiked gayfeather	<i>Liatris spicata</i>
○	Jupiter's beard*	<i>Centranthus ruber</i>
○	Salvia 'Cardonna'*	<i>Salvia nemorosa</i> (or any Salvia)
◐	Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
◐	New Jersey tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>

Sun	36" to 48" high	Scientific Name
○	Wild quinine	<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>
○	Leadplant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>
○	Scarlet beebalm	<i>Monarda didyma</i>
◐	Black cohosh	<i>Actea racemosa</i>
◐	Culver's root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>

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Late Summer Top Garden Picks



Prairie Onion
Allium stellatum



Rattlesnake Master
Eryngium yuccafolium



Swamp Milkweed
Asclepias incarnata



Virginia Mountain Mint
Pycnanthemum virginicum



Little Joe-Pye Plant
Eupatorium dubium



Thickspike gayfeather
Liatris pycnostachya



Nodding pink onion
Allium cernuum

Diversify! More to Try

Sun	6" to 18" high	Scientific Name
<input type="radio"/>	Nodding pink onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Prairie onion	<i>Allium stellatum</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Blanket flower	<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>
Sun	18" to 36" high	Scientific Name
<input type="radio"/>	Rattlesnake master	<i>Eryngium yuccafolium</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Blue giant hyssop	<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Virginia mountain mint	<i>Pycnanthemum virginicum</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> (or any Rudbeckia)
<input type="radio"/>	Little Joe-pye plant	<i>Eupatorium dubium</i>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Swamp milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Great blue lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>
Sun	36" to 48" high	Scientific Name
<input type="radio"/>	False sunflower	<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Wild beebalm	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Grey-headed coneflower	<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Blue pitcher sage	<i>Salvia azurea</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Joe-pye plant	<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Meadow gayfeather	<i>Liatris ligulistylis</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Thickspike gayfeather	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Rough gayfeather	<i>Liatris aspera</i>
<input type="radio"/>	Blue globe thistle*	<i>Echinops ritro</i>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Blunt mountain mint	<i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Sweet coneflower	<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Missouri goldenrod	<i>Solidago missouriensis</i> (or any goldenrod)

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More resources: plantnebraska.org

Eastern Nebraska Flowers for Pollinators



'Wichita Mountains goldenrod'
Solidago 'Wichita Mountains'

Autumn

Top Garden Picks



'Autumn Joy' Sedum
Sedum spectabile



Aromatic Aster
Aster oblongifolius



'Wichita Mountains'
Goldenrod
Solidago 'Wichita Mountains'



Dotted Gayfeather
Liatris punctata



Helen's Flower
Helenium autumnale



Wild Senna
Senna hebecarpa

Diversify! More to Try

Sun	6" to 18" high	Scientific Name
○	Aster 'Snow Flurry'	<i>Aster ericoides</i>
○	Dotted gayfeather	<i>Liatris punctata</i>
Sun	18" to 36" high	Scientific Name
○	Obedience plant	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>
○	Goldenrod 'Wichita Mountains'	<i>Solidago</i>
○◐	*Sedum 'Autumn Joy'	Or any Sedum
○◐	Blue-mist flower	<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>
◐	Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>
◐	Zigzag goldenrod	<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>
◐	Aster, blue wood	<i>Aster cordifolius</i>
◐	Aster, bigleaf	<i>Aster macrophyllus</i>
◐	Aster, Short's	<i>Aster shortii</i>
Sun	36" to 48" high	Scientific Name
○	Aster, smooth	<i>Aster azureus</i>
○	Aster, New England	<i>Aster novae angliae</i>
○	Aster, aromatic	<i>Aster oblongifolius</i>
○	Helen's flower	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>
○	Wild senna	<i>Senna hebecarpa</i>
○	Blue-mist spirea*	<i>Caryopteris</i>
○◐	Japanese anemone*	<i>Anemone hupehensis</i>

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PLANTNEBRASKA

Growing Trees, Plants, and Communities