

# The Lincoln Pollinator Action Plan: Planting the Way for Biodiversity and Climate Resilience

## A Description of Plants Offered as part of LLCT's Summer Plant Kits

Unless otherwise stated, a Summer Plant Kit includes 3 of each plant.



**Foxglove Beardtongue (Penstemon digitalis):** Stems are topped with stalked clusters of white, tubular, unevenly five-lobed flowers which rise in pairs from the upper leaf axils. Has shiny, green, simple leaves on slender, purple stems. Intolerant of clay; prefers well-drained soils. Use in beds, borders, meadows, and naturalized areas of your yard.

Type: perennial/deer resistant

Nutrient: nectar and pollen

Bloom Time: May, Jun, Jul

Exposure: full sun, part shade

Soil: dry, moist

Height: 2-4 ft.

Spread: 1-2 ft.

(Photo courtesy R.W. Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)



**Yellow Wild Indigo (Baptisia tinctorial):** Slow starting; third year roots get established and plant begins to flourish. Low maintenance, long-lived, and drought tolerant. Excess shade or competition inhibits growth. Produces short clusters of yellow, pea-shaped flowers that evolve into unique small, inflated purple pods. Good for erosion control, perennial borders, and dry meadows.

**Type:** perennial/deer resistant **Nutrient:** nectar and host plant **Bloom Time:** Jun, Jul

**Exposure:** full sun, part shade **Soil:** dry, moist **Height:** 2-3 ft. **Spread:** 2-3 ft.

(Photo courtesy R.W. Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)



**Tall White Aster; Flat-topped White Aster (Doellingeria umbellata):** An early blooming Aster, it has clusters of white petals and yellow center disks, then pales to a yellowish tan. Spreads by underground rhizomes, as well as by seed. Can be aggressive. Keep caged or protected from deer, wild turkey, and cottontail rabbits while establishing.

Type: perennial Nutrient: pollen, nectar and host Bloom Time: Jul, Aug, Sept Exposure: full sun, part shade Soil: wet Height: 2-7 ft. Spread: 3-4 ft.

(Photo courtesy James L. Reveal, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)



**Spotted Joe-Pye Weed (Eutrochium maculatum):** Gets its name for having dark purple spots on its stems, though sometimes the stem is solid. Tiny, light to deep purple flowers in compound inflorescences bloom from mid-summer to early fall. It will spread, so should be planted with caution in small landscape situations. Low maintenance.

Type: perennial/deer resistantNutrient: nectarBloom Time: Jul, Aug, SeptExposure: full sun, part shadeSoil: moist, wetHeight: 3-6 ft.Spread: 3-4 ft.

(Photo courtesy Alan Cressler, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)



White Meadowsweet (Spiraea alba): Foliage is yellow-green, turning golden-yellow in fall. Tiny white flowers bloom from mid to late summer. The brown fruit, which persists after flowering, is a distinctive feature of all Spiraea.

Type: shrub

Nutrient: pollen

Bloom Time: Jul, Aug, Sep

Exposure: full sun, part shade

Soil: moist, wet

Height: 2-5 ft. Spread: 2-4 ft.

(Photo courtesy Stephanie Brundage, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)



**Spotted St. John's Wort (Hypericum punctatum):** This wonderful perennial is easily identifiable by the dark spots that can occur on the petals and leaves of the plant.

Type: perennial/deer resistant Nutrient: pollen and host plant Bloom Time: Jun, Jul, Aug

**Exposure:** full to part sun **Soil:** moist **Height:** 1-3 ft. **Spread:** 1-3 ft.

(Photo courtesy R.W. Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)



**Shrubby St. John's Wort (Hypericum prolificum):** A densely branched shrub with an attractive shaggy rounded form. 5 yellow petals surround a dense cluster of pollen laden stamens. Tolerates a wide range of soils and some drought. Prune in early spring. Deer and rabbit resistant. Mass or group as a shrub border. Can be grown as a hedge. Also useful for stabilizing embankments.

Type: perennial/deer resistant

Nutrient: pollen and host plant

Exposure: full sun, part shade
(Photo courtesy George H. Bruso, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)

Nutrient: pollen and host plant

Bloom Time: Jul, Aug, Sept

Height: 1-5 ft.

Spread: 1-4 ft.

Plant Kits include 3 St. John's Wort. Due to poor germination this spring and drought in early summer, the nursery could not provide enough shrubby St. John's Wort. Kits will include two Shrubby St. John's Wort, and one Spotted St. John's Wort both excellent pollinator plants approved by Dr. Gegear.



**Swamp Milkweed (Asclepias incarnata):** An elegant plant with slender willow-like leaves and topped by rounded pink or rose colored flower clusters. Grows easily in a home garden with average to moist soil, well-drained. Aphids are common and not a problem, unless the plant looks sick; then, an effective treatment is to spray the plant and aphids with soapy water.

Type: perennial/deer resistant

Nutrient: nectar

Bloom Time: Jun, Jul. Aug, Sep, Oct

Exposure: full sun, part shade

Soil: moist, wet

(Photo courtesy Stephanie Brundage, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)

Bloom Time: Jun, Jul. Aug, Sep, Oct

Height: 2-4 ft.

Spread: 1-2 ft.

Plant Kits include 3 Swamp Milkweed Plants. Due to nursery availability, these plants will be available for pick up later in July. LLCT will contact you to pick up on July 27th or 28th.

#### **Grasses were offered A La Carte**



**Big Bluestem (Andropogon gerardii):** Tall, hardy, warm season bunchgrass that yields silver seeds in late summer. Three-parted seedheads are iconic and resemble a turkeys foot. Leaves and stems change color with the first frost to a deep red-bronze that provides landscape interest well into the winter. Grows in almost any soil, from wet clay to dry sand.

**Type:** grass/deer resistant

Nutrient: host plant and nesting

Bloom Time: Aug, Sept, Oct

Soil: dry, moist

Height: 4-8 ft.

Spread: 2-4 ft.

(Photo courtesy Carolyn Fannon, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)



**Switch Grass (Panicum virgatum):** Perennial warm-season bunchgrass with open, lacy sprays with small reddish-purple seedheads. Bright green leaves occur up and down the stem, turning pale yellow in the fall and lasting throughout the winter. Rhizomatous, loose sod former. A prolific self seeder; in small gardens with ideal growing conditions, deadhead to prevent excessive seeding. Good for erosion control and perennial borders. Low maintenance.

**Type:** grass/deer resistant

Nutrient: host plant and nesting

Exposure: full sun, part shade

Nutrient: host plant and nesting

Soil: dry, moist

Height: 3-6 ft.

Spread: 2-3 ft.

(Photo courtesy Carolyn Fannon, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)

**Tussock Sedge (Carex stricta):** Grass-like plant with a cluster of brown seed capsules clinging high on the stem. Stems bearing greenish or brownish spikes of inconspicuous flowers above dense tufts of grass-like leaves. Green leaves are exceeded by the stem in height. Forms large tufts or hummocks. Tolerates shady conditions. Best grown in mass for foliage effect. Good for low spots with seasonal flooding.

Type: sedge/deer resistant Nutrient: host plant and nesting Bloom Time: Jun, Jul

**Exposure:** full sun **Soil:** moist, wet **Height:** 1-3 ft. **Spread:** 1-3 ft.

(By gmayfield10 - https://www.flickr.com/photos/gmayfield10/6405964869/, CC BY-SA 2.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?)

Due to nursery availability, Tussock Sedge will be available for pick up later in July. LLCT will contact you to pick up on July 27th or 28th.

## Nurseries and Growers for the Birches Site and LLCT Plant Kits

#### **Organic Soil Solutions**

Lincolnite Mike Murray is the owner of this all organic lawn care and landscaping company. They use an organic and proactive approach to plant and soil health care. They are supplying the compost/soil mix at the Birches site.

Office: 154 B Lincoln Road, Lincoln, MA 01773 — Workshop: 54 Knox Trail, Acton, MA 01720

Phone: 781-937-9992 Contact: mikem@organicsoilsolutions.com

organicsoilsolutions.com

#### **Bigelow Nurseries**

455 West Main Street, P.O. Box 718, Northboro MA 01532 Phone: (508) 845-2143 Contact: cs@bigelownurseries.com bigelownurseries.com

#### **Kohl Gardens**

Adam Kohl is the owner and operator of a native plant nursery in the North Quabbin area of Massachusetts specializing in local-genotype, wild-origin, seed-grown plants. Adam also offers a range of services (field botany, habitat planning, seed collection, site assessments, and horticultural consulting) and education (plant-insect interactions, presentations, walks, and private & group lessons).

> Contact: kohlgardens@gmail.com kohlgardens.com

Follow on Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/interested in plants/

### Wing and A Prayer

Amy Pulley is the owner and operator of a native plant nursery in Cummington, Massachusetts specializing in pollinator plants. The nursery has regular hours on Sun. and Mon. from 9 am to 3 pm. Amy is glad to greet and spend time with anyone interested in learning more about pollination systems and creating habitat. Call if you would like help or to purchase plants. Go and browse anytime; call ahead if you want to meet with Amy.

Contact: creamery3@verizon.net or call (413) 634-5659

Follow on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/wingandaprayernursery/

#### **Vermont Willow Nursery**

Sonia and Michael Dodge are the owners and operators of this incredible willow farm located on 50 acres of fertile farmland in Fairfield, Franklin County, Vermont. Michael is a plantsman and horticulturalist with a distinguished and fascinating history. After many years, they are selling the farm and ready to retire for the second time. Contact them if you are interested!

Contact: WillowmanVT@me.com

willowsvermont.com

#### **Ward's Nursery & Garden Center**

600 S Main St, Great Barrington, MA 01230 Phone: (413) 528-0166

wardsnursery.com

#### **Ernst Seed**

Ernst Conservation Seeds, Inc., 8884 Mercer Pike, Meadville PA 16335 Phone: (800) 873-3321 Contact: sales@ernstseed.com

ernstseed.com

