



# THE GREEN CENTRE CIC

## FACTSHEET: POLLINATOR CRISIS



**One Planet Living project:** NATURE & WILDLIFE, ZERO WASTE, CULTURE & COMMUNITY

**Title:** Fly Wild

**Date:** 2024 / 2025

**Summary:** Increasing pollinator habitats in Brighton and Hove

## What do you know about the pollinator crisis?

### 1. Pollinator crisis: what's the problem?

Pollinator populations are in decline. Pollinators are threatened by many factors, climate change, loss in feeding and nesting habitats, toxic pesticides and disease. We are starving them of food, clean water, shelter and a safe place to thrive. We are effectively making them homeless.

### 2. Pollinators: who are they?

Pollinators include birds, bats, butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, wasps, small mammals, and most importantly, bees.

### 3. Pollinators: why are they so important?

Pollinators pollinate our food crops, but they are also vital for the survival of other wild plants that support so much of our wildlife. Without pollinators, the human race and all Earth's ecosystems would not survive. More than 80% of the world's flowering plants require a pollinator to reproduce, that's 1,200 crops and 180,000 different plants which help stabilize our soils, clean our air, supply oxygen and support wildlife.

## Here's how you can you help?

### 1. Grow flowers which support pollinators

You can support pollinators by growing flowers BUT they need to be the right kind. Pollinators need a variety of plants with differing flowering times to provide a consistent supply of nectar and pollen throughout the year.

### 2. No garden?

Don't worry! You can create a mini-pollinator garden. Find an outdoor space, backyard, a balcony, a front doorstep, etc and purchase one of our sustainable handmade planters or use a pot you already have.

### 3. Use Kate Bradbury's pollen and nectar calendar specially created for planters

Overleaf you will find a calendar created by Hove based award-winning writer, broadcaster, and TV presenter, specialising in wildlife gardening, Kate Bradbury. She has written four wildlife gardening books. She regularly appears on television and radio and on the popular RHS gardening podcast.

Kate published a calendar on-line for gardens. At our request she kindly came up with a 2nd list of pot-friendly plants with different flowering times, to provide interest all year round with one or two blooming in a specific month of the year. Thank you, Kate.



# POLLINATOR CALENDAR for PLANTERS



**VERY IMPORTANT:** as you are creating a **MINI-POLLINATOR GARDEN** we are asking you to provide plants for pollinators for just **ONE MONTH** of the year.

To guarantee **DIVERSITY** we encourage you to choose plants that flower in the month of **YOUR BIRTHDAY** or the **BIRTHDAY OF A LOVED ONE** in remembrance.

1. Choose the month of your birthday or the birthday of a loved one.
2. Choose 1 plant from the left-hand column, this is the one which will flower in your chosen month.
3. Choose 1 plant from the right-hand column, from the same month. This will provide some interest throughout the year.

Month	Choose 1 plant to flower in your chosen month	Choose 1 plant so there is something growing all year round
January	Christmas rose (hellebore), winter aconite, snowdrops	Rosemary is (evergreen), perennial wallflower (blooms all year round).
February	Christmas rose (hellebore), winter aconite, snowdrops, crocus, lungwort (pulmonaria)	Rosemary is (evergreen), perennial wallflower (blooms all year round).
March	Crocus, Primroses, Dwarf daffodils	Rosemary is (evergreen), perennial wallflower (blooms all year round), lungwort (pulmonaria) has nice leaves that look good all year round.
April	Willow (catkins), white dead nettle, apple blossom, grape hyacinth, cuckoo flower.	Rosemary is (evergreen), perennial wallflower (blooms all year round), lungwort (pulmonaria) has nice leaves that look good all year round.
May	Thyme, calendula, chives, strawberries.	Perennial wallflower (blooms all year round), cranesbill geranium (e.g. rozanne) and catmint (nepeta) flower all summer.
June	Lavender, calendula, chives, strawberries, trailing bellflower.	Perennial wallflower (blooms all year round), cranesbill geranium (e.g. rozanne) and catmint (nepeta) flower all summer.
July	Lavender, Calendula, Chives, Trailing bellflower, Oregano.	Perennial wallflower (blooms all year round), cranesbill geranium (e.g. rozanne) and catmint (nepeta) flower all summer.
August	Trailing bellflower, salvia, dwarf buddleia (e.g. buzz)	Cranesbill geraniums (e.g. rozanne) flower all summer.
September	Trailing bellflower, salvia, dwarf buddleia (e.g. 'Buzz'), verbena 'lollipop'	Ice plant looks nice for most of the year with interesting leaves, cranesbill geranium (e.g. rozanne) flowers all summer.
October	Salvia, dwarf verbena bonariensis (e.g. lollipop), ice plant	Perennial wallflower blooms all year round.
November	Dwarf verbena bonariensis (e.g. lollipop), dwarf rudbeckia	Perennial wallflower blooms all year round.
December	Winter pansies, Christmas rose (hellebore)	Perennial wallflower blooms all year round.

**TOGETHER,** we can make Brighton and Hove the pollinator capital of the UK! Inspire your community by posting your flowers on our social media.

**FB:** The Green Centre – Brighton

**IG:** thegreencentrebrighton

**X:** @BtonGreenCentre

**Email us:** info@thegreencentre.co.uk

**Phone us:** 07467 959200

**Web:** www.thegreencentre.co.uk