

Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.

**Michigan Pollinator Garden Sign Order Form** 

Name:			
Address:			
City:	ST:	Zip:	
Phone:			
Email:			

Item Description	Price	QTY	Total
10 X 15 Full color Sign	\$20 ea		
Shipping: 1-2 signs - \$7.85 3-5 signs - \$11.55 6-9 signs - \$15.00 10 or more signs to 1 location – free shipping!			
Total Payment			

Method of Payment:

Check

Cash

Check #

**Shipping**– Up to 2 signs will fit in a USPS 'flat-rate' Envelope, and ship at the quoted price. All other quantities are shipped in a USPS Priority box. Fill in the shipping cost that corresponds to the number of signs you are purchasing.

Mail this form along with a check made out to Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. to the current Pollinator Sign Coordinator, Janet Hickman PO Box 1278, Bellaire, MI 49615. Receipt of your order will be acknowledged by email, along with anticipated ship date.

Alternatively – signs may be purchased at MGC Board Meetings, District Meetings and State Conferences. Fill out the order form, provide cash or check and coordinate with a club

those meetings

member attending one of



## What Makes a Pollinator Garden?

When you are planning your pollinator garden, remember the basics: Food, Water, Shelter and a Safe Environment. Pollinators need both nectar plants and host plants. Host plants are the food source for the larvae/caterpillars. Do you have a bird bath in your garden or a small water feature? Don't forget shelter from the wind and rain. Many shrubs and trees, especially native ones not only provide shelter, but early season nectar, as well as serve as host plants for pollinators. What about a sunny area for warmth? And of course, provide a safe environment. Properly amending the soil helps grow healthy plants that are less susceptible to diseases and pests and therefore reduces or eliminates the need for pesticides. If you do need a pesticide, consult with your county extension office to find the least toxic alternative and carefully follow the directions to minimize potential adverse effects.

There is mounting evidence that 'nativars', or cultivars of native plants are not as effective for pollinators as the true native. Recognize that we garden for our own sense of aesthetics as well, so just try to include plenty of true natives along with their sometimes showier cousins. Do however, try to avoid imported species. Chances are they don't support any of our pollinators, and at best, take up space that could be used to support pollinators, while at worst are invasive.

Last but not least, keep in mind, it's all about regaining balance. If you are worried that your pollinator garden isn't producing enough butterflies this year, remember you are feeding the birds as well.

Register your pollinator garden at: www.millionpollinatorgardens.org. It's free and only takes a couple minutes. Choose National Garden Clubs in the dropdown menu as the Referring Organization.

Looking for more information about Michigan Pollinator Gardens? Check the information available on the Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. website - <u>www.michigangardenclubs.org/projects</u>