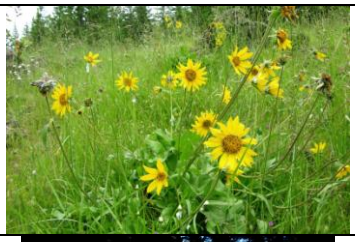
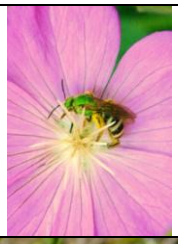
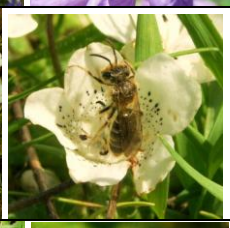
Native Plants Frequented by Native Bees and Other Pollinators, Southern Willamette Valley, Oregon

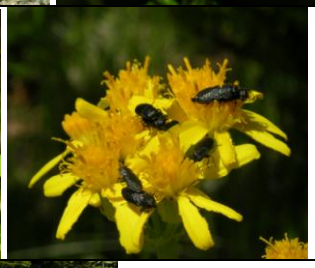
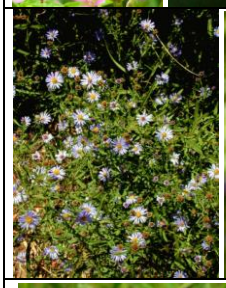
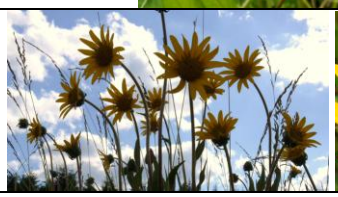
Use locally-sourced plants to assure the biochemistry and phenology to which local pollinators are adapted. Many of these plants are not yet sold commonly and you will have to find local seed sources.

	SHRUBS and SMALL TREES
	Tall Oregongrape (*Berberis aquifolium*). Tall Oregongrape is a very early blooming sun lover, and thus, is very likely to have pollinators (both bees and hummingbirds) visit. It is one of only two evergreen shrubs native to the Willamette Valley (WV) floor. It is widely available and widely used.
 	Buckbrush or Wedgeleaf Ceanothus (*Ceanothus cuneatus;* left). Uncommon to WV, but present in well-drained soils along the Willamette River, and along Buckbrush Creek on the south side of Mt. Pisgah (Eugene area), where it also is a host plant for the Hedgerow Hairstreak butterfly. Redstem Ceanothus (*Ceanothus sanguineus;* right). Deciduous shrub with large clusters of white flowers. Neither is commonly sold.
	Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*). Deciduous, with foamy white flower clusters. A host plant for some butterflies. Very common and occasionally sold.
 	Oregon Crabapple (*Malus fusca*). Likes partial shade of edges, with some soil moisture. Forms small fruits in late summer. Occasionally sold.
 	Bitter Cherry (*Prunus emarginata* var. *mollis;* left), Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana* var. *demissa;* right). Both of these native cherries can sprout from rhizomes (horizontal, underground roots), so they need lots of room. Chokecherry is more common on the WV floor, Bitter Cherry is more common on foothill slopes and higher. Occasionally sold.
 	Red-flowering Currant (*Ribes sanguineum* var. *sanguineum;* left) and Straggly Gooseberry (*Ribes divaricatum* var. *divaricatum;* right). Red-flowering Currant is a popular ornamental: thornless and with bright flowers cherished by hummingbirds. Straggly Gooseberry is far less showy than the first species, and has thorns. But it attracts a multitude of small pollinators, and occasionally, hummingbirds.

 	Nootka Rose (*Rosa nutkana* ssp. *nutkana*). Large, pink flowers with a wonderful aroma characterize this native rose. It is tolerant of higher than average moisture, and flowers best in full sun. It spreads slowly by underground rhizomes. Not common in the nursery trade.
 	Thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus;* left). A botanist's joke, as the name means small-flowered, but the flowers are very large! A favorite of bumblebees. Spreads by rhizomes. Salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis;* right) has small thorns. It blooms very early for the earliest pollinators. Occasionally sold.
	Hooker's Willow (*Salix hookeriana*), Pacific Willow (*Salix lasiandra* ssp. *lasiandra*), Scouler's Willow (*Salix scouleriana*), Sitka Willow (*Salix sitchensis*). Scouler's Willow is the best choice for the average S. WV yard. The catkins will attract insect and hummingbird pollinators, and all willows are used as butterfly host plants. You will have to look hard to find Scouler's Willow for sale, but willows can be started easily from cuttings.
	Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus* var. *laevigatus*). A very common shrub on the valley floor, usually in part shade or at woodland edges. The white berries disappear in late winter as low preference animal food. The bell-like flowers are especially attractive to some bumblebees.
	FORBS
	Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*). The white, flat-topped flower clusters attract bees, butterflies, beetles, flies, wasps, and many other pollinators. The leaves are mildly scented. It spreads slowly. Occasionally sold, but be sure what you purchase is locally-propagated stock.
 	Slim-leaved Onion (*Allium amplectens;* left), Tapertip Onion (*Allium acuminatum;* right). These two are bright pink, and very showy. The former can grow in damp areas, the latter does best in dry conditions. Both do best in full sun. Both grow well from seed, but are rarely sold.
	Spreading Dogbane (*Apocynum androsaemifolium* var. *androsaemifolium*). This plant seems to have more draw for pollinators in the Cascades than in the Willamette Valley. Taller Indian Hemp (*Apocynum cannabinum* or *A. sibiricum*) also should be tried. All spread by rhizomes, like milkweeds. Occasionally sold.
 	Showy Milkweed (*Asclepias speciosa*). Famous for being a host plant to Monarch butterfly larvae, but also is an excellent nectar plant for many pollinators. Readily available, but use local sources. Narrow-leaved Milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*) may be equally as good.

	Balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza deltoidea*). This is a short but showy native sunflower that is very attractive to native bees and butterflies. A wonderful garden plant. Occasionally sold.
	Fireweed (*Chamerion angustifolium* var. *canescens*). Surprisingly easy to grow. Spreads slowly by rhizomes (underground runners). Attractive to bumblebees and hummingbirds. Rarely sold.
 	Clarkia, or Farewell-to-Spring (*Clarkia amoena* ssp. *lindleyi*). This species is an annual, and flowers in mid to late summer. Collect seed from it, and toss it out early the next spring where you want it. Lots of far-away material available – avoid it if possible, and obtain the local one for best pollinator attraction and minimizing hybridization.
 	Menzie's Larkspur (*Delphinium menziesii*), Oregon Larkspur (*Delphinium oreganum*), Tall Larkspur (*Delphinium trolliifolium*). Menzie's is shorter, and grows in full sun. Tall and Oregon are taller, and grow well in part shade. They all are bumblebee and hummingbird favorites! Oregon is least available, but blooms just after Tall – doubling the blooming season of the two taller larkspurs.
	Sticky Cinquefoil (*Drymocallis glandulosa* var. *glandulosa*). This was known as *Potentilla glandulosa*. It is a major draw for small, black carpenter bees, as well as other pollinators. Easy to grow from seed.
 	Oregon Sunshine (*Eriophyllum lanatum* var. *leucophyllum*). "Dusty" blue-green leaves and bright yellow flowers. A tolerant native, easy to grow by dividing. Pollinating bees and flies love it. Starts are available occasionally.
 	California Poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*). Locally native California Poppies may be gone from our area, so mostly what is available is imported from California. Nonetheless, they have nectar and pollen that attracts bumblebees.
	Rough-leaved Aster (*Eurybia radulina*). Formerly, *Aster radulinus*. This aster does best along woodland edges, although it likely will do well in a full sun garden. Not sold, so you will have to find a seed source.

 	Oregon Geranium (*Geranium oreganum*). As gorgeous as any horticultural manipulation, yet rarely sold. Can grow in full sun, or clamber up adjacent, taller plants. Adored by bees, beeflies and butterflies alike.
 	Blue Gilia (*Gilia capitata* ssp. *capitata*). Like Clarkia, an annual that will spring up where you toss your collected seed from last year. The pale blue flowers attract a host of insect pollinators last in the summer. Rarely sold.
 	Slender-stemmed Waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum occidentale;* left), Western Waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum tenuipes;* right). Slender-stemmed is harder to find, but doesn't spread, and has more blue in the flowers. Western spreads by underground rhizomes, and although the flowers are greenish and nondescript, the anther filaments are purple, and bees are very attracted to it.
 	Lovage (*Ligusticum apiifolium*). This plant is a pollinator magnet. It resembles a carrot plant, and is a perennial. It grows very easily from seed, yet is rare in the nursery trade.
 	Many-leaved lupine (*Lupinus polyphyllus* var. *polyphyllus*), Riverbank lupine (*Lupinus rivularis;* shown at left). Native lupines draw bumblebees and other pollinators readily. Many-leaved lupine is perennial, and Riverbank Lupine is a short-lived perennial (usually 3 or 4 years). Both occasionally are sold.
 	Baby Blue Eyes (*Nemophila menziesii* var. *atomaria*). Very different from the all-blue-flowered variety from California popular in "wildflower" mixes. Our annual flowers very early, and is white with tiny, indigo spots. Rarely sold.
 	Woodland Phacelia (*Phacelia nemoralis* ssp. *oregonensis*). This plant is not a showy garden plant, but it is an amazing draw for bumblebees and other pollinators. Rarely sold, but it grows easily from seed.
 	Rosy Plectritis (*Plectritis congesta*). An annual that occurs fairly regularly in moist meadows, does great in gardens, and attracts a bounty of pollinators. Surprisingly, another great native not known to be available commercially.

 	Slender Cinquefoil (*Potentilla gracilis* var. *gracilis*). A compact plant with lemon-skin-yellow blossoms that are visited frequently by small bees, especially. Be aware of the invasive look-alike, Hairy Cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*) accidentally introduced in the commercial market.
 	Tall Western Groundsel (*Senecio integerrimus* var. *exaltatus*). Not much information is known about this species, but it likely is a good pollinator attractor. Not sold, so you will have to find seed.
	Goldenrod (*Solidago lepida* ssp. *lepida* & ssp. *salebrosa*). Blooms very late in summer, providing a valuable nectar resource for butterflies and bees. Excellent in the Cascades, probably good here, too.
 	Meadow Checkermallow (*Sidalcea campestris*), Cusick's Checkermallow (*Sidalcea cusickii;* left), Rosy Checkermallow (*Sidalcea malviflora* ssp. *virgata;* right). These are amazing plants, and very attractive to pollinators. They are occasionally found for sale. They also are used as host plants by some butterflies.
 	Hall's Aster (*Symphyotrichum hallii*), Douglas' Aster (*Symphyotrichum subspicatum;* left, right). Both of these species formerly were in the genus *Aster*. The are late summer bloomers, after most other natives are past flowering. They are sought after by bees, beeflies, beetles, butterflies and wasps for nectar.
 	Woolly Head Clover (*Trifolium eriocephalum* ssp. *eriocephalum;* left), White Tip Clover (*Trifolium variegatum;* right), Spring bank Clover (*Trifolium wormskioldii*). Native clovers have been widely extirpated, so they can be hard to find. More observation needed, but they hold great promise for attracting pollinators.
	American Vetch (*Vicia americana* var. *americana;* left), Giant Vetch (*Vicia nigricans* var. *gigantea*). American Vetch often occurs as the only nectar plant available along roadsides or meadow edges. Highly sought after by butterflies, may also be desirable to other insect pollinators. Little is known about Giant Vetch and attracting pollinators. Not sold, so seed must be obtained elsewhere.
 	Wyethia or Mule's Ears (*Wyethia angustifolia*). Very similar to Balsamroot. A short, native, yellow sunflower, found from very damp to dry conditions. Pollinators visit it frequently. Occasionally sold by vendors.

Latin plant names correspond to: Cook. T. & S. Sundberg, eds. Oregon Flora Project Checklist. Oregon State University. Corvallis, OR. http://www.oregonflora.org/checklist.php#a