

NOTE In Session 4, I posted a video about using a Broadfork. Here is the link to a site that sells the Meadow Creature Broadfork, indestructible, with metal handles. www.meadowcreature.com

Session 6 Food Friendly Yard Winter Email Gardening Course Creating Pollinator Friendly Gardens

Food and Flowers go together. Growing flowers along with food producing plants benefits food production and supports pollinating and beneficial insects. This week's session provides information about pollinators and other beneficial insects, plant suggestions and tips on planning and planting a pollinator garden.

By now we all know that honeybees are struggling, but there are hundreds of other species of bees as well as butterflies, moths and insects that also are suffering from lack of habitat and pesticide use. Several of this week's videos focus specifically on these insects to help you identify them and understand their value. Some of them, like spiders and wasps, are creatures that have undeserved bad reputations. Included is a video highlighting the unique pollinating talent of Bumblebees. Bumblebees are also in decline and, as you will see from the video, they are one of the main pollinators of tomatoes.

Pollinating insects have preferences of flower shape, type, and growth habit. The videos on designing and choosing plants for pollinator beds address these issues. Although some of the videos were made in Texas or the UK, the plants and techniques are transferable to us here in New Hampshire.

Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMGjKo3xQkE>

Pollinator garden for home gardens

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cuqr_27KXdc

Creating a bee friendly garden

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ms71BOuzJ9Q>

Month by month Montage of flowers for pollinators

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fuAE4riYuR0>

How to encourage pollinating insects in your garden

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ai8XRf_wYjA

10 Beneficial Insects you want in your garden

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vf8QyIF3eoY>

Solitary bees

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZrTndD1H10>
Bumble bee pollination