Is this a pollinator?

Monarch butterflies and hummingbirds are two of the most delightful pollinators that visit summer gardens. Do you know some other fascinating pollinators you're likely to encounter? Check out these 5 different types of pollinating insects and the kinds of flowers that attract them.

Read [Maryland Grows Blog](#)

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Pesticides kill pollinators

Pesticide is a generic term that includes insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, and other chemicals that can suppress, repel, or kill different groups of organisms. Most insecticides, including some organic products, are potentially harmful to bees and other pollinating insects. We also now know that commonly used fungicides can harm native bees and honey bees. And while herbicides are relatively non-toxic to bees, they harm them indirectly by eliminating floral resources and foraging habitat— the nectar, pollen, and shelter that pollinators need. Let white clover and violets flourish in your lawn! The zero-tolerance approach to weeds is bad for bees, pets, people, and natural resources. Reserve herbicides to control invasive plants like Oriental bittersweet and tree-of-heaven, when necessary.

Read more [Pollinators and Pesticides](#)

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Three Maryland Master Gardener programs honored for excellence

Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and Montgomery Counties each took third place Search For Excellence awards in different categories at the 2018 International Master Gardener Conference.

Read more [Maryland Grows Blog](#)

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Native plants

In response to growing demand, we've expanded our web content on native plants.
Native plants for meadows
Native plants for sunny slopes
Native plants for shady slopes
Deer resistant native plants
Native plants and climate change
Cultivars of native plants

UME Learning Garden at State Fair
Visit the UME Learning Garden at the Maryland State Fair, August 23rd - September 2nd and learn small-space gardening techniques from Master Gardeners.

The garden is located next to the 4-H/FFA Home Arts Building.

Q: When is the best time to trim my hydrangea bush?
A: Read the answer

Read more Guide to Pruning Hydrangeas

Hot topics

Climate change and the Chesapeake - a Story Map

New snakes publication
Sea-level rise and saltwater intrusion are already affecting rural agricultural coastlines in the lower Delmarva. How will our state adapt?

Read more in this Story Map

Dr. Kate Tully, Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Snakes are important predators in the natural environment. All of Maryland’s snakes are harmless except for the copperhead and the timber rattlesnake -- and you should avoid killing them.

DNR’s Photo Guide to Common Snakes of Maryland (PDF)

Read more Tips on dealing with snakes found near your home

Urban farming is looking up!

Researchers at the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources and University of Maryland Extension use improved technology to convert unused rooftops into productive farms.

Garden tips & tasks

July | August | September

Upcoming events

- UME Learning Garden at the Maryland State Fair
- 2019 County Fairs & Shows (PDF)
- Check UME County Extension sites for local offerings
- Check AGNR Events Calendar

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