



STILLWATER NATIVES NURSERY

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HOW TO MAKE A NATIVE POLLINATOR GARDEN

No Till, If You Plan Ahead

Cardboard and mulch works, cutting the light needed for weed seeds to germinate. Applied over lawn or weedy area, gravel driveway, poor soil, *not* wet areas. For this method, do not use mulch without cardboard.

Plain brown cardboard of a larger size, no white cardboard, waxed cardboard or shiny printed boxes. Flaps on boxes need to be removed or completely overlapped by another piece of cardboard, cutting the light completely.

Decide on a shape with a perimeter that can be controlled from invading grass or weeds. Place cardboard segments to overlap by at least 6-8 inches.

Use rocks, bricks or staples to hold cardboard until mulch is applied, 3-4 inches deep.

Mulch needs to be weed-free. Any wood, except species with allelopathic characteristics such as Eucalyptus or Black walnut. Mulch can be chips or fine.

It will take about 5 to 8 months and at least one rainy season for the **Life in the Soil** to consume all the leaves, roots and seeds under the cardboard and mulch.

- a. Cut the light
- b. Prevent evaporation
- c. Stabilize the temperature
- d. Protect from the elements; heat, rain, freezing

While waiting for appropriate planting months for natives, November to February, you can investigate sources of plants. While these native gardens are low water and low maintenance, the first summer the shrubs may need a little water, once every few weeks, depending on when you planted them. Roots become established in the long rainy season.

If you have a suitable holding area, you might want to begin acquiring the difficult-to-find species of shrubs, bulbs, perennials or seeds. Digging plants out of the wild is not considered environmentally friendly unless you are salvaging plants scheduled to be destroyed.

For pollinators it is better to plant perennials and annuals in drifts or large patches. In our Coastal ecoregion, shrubs can be planted as closely as 3 feet apart. to grow together as a hedgerow, supporting pollinators over-wintering and songbirds for nesting and food. Plants may need supplemental water in their first summer.



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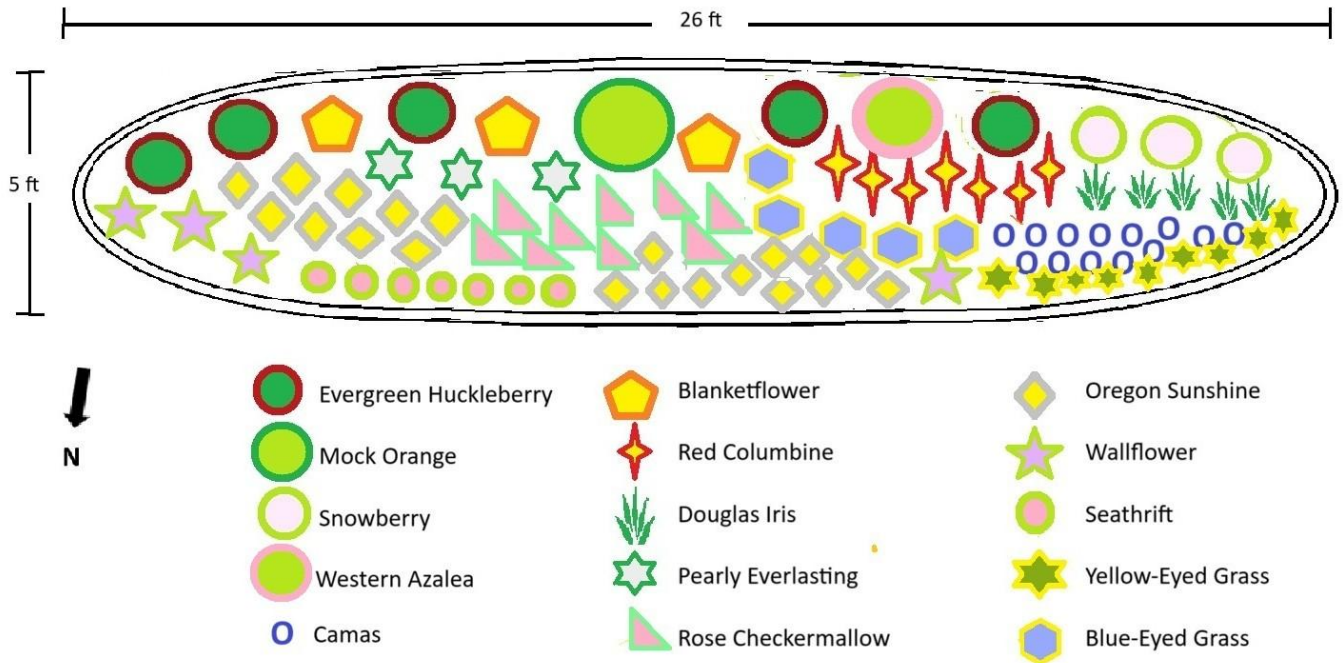
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Coquille Riverwalk
Native Plants Pollinator Garden

Design by Darcy Grahek



RESOURCES

Plants and Plant Information

Stillwater Natives Nursery www.stillwaternativesnursery.com

Elkton Educational Butterfly Garden Nursery <https://elktonbutterflies.com/native-plant-nursery/>

Xerces Maritime Northwest native plant list – https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/17-048_03_XercesSoc_Pollinator-Plants_Maritime-Northwest-Region_web-3page.pdf

Cardboard

Larger pieces without flaps work best. Check furniture stores, glass works, recycle bins. Can be ordered on-line.

Mulch - can be wood chips or shavings. Feed carbon to plants and to the life in the soil, the decomposers that make this method possible.

- Arborists working in your area, ask for “clean” chips with no invasive plant materials.
- Free chips in Coquille, Pyublic Works?
- Oregon Overseas Timber in Bandon, 3 sizes of bark mulch.