



Pollinator Garden Certification Criteria

To help guide your landscaping plans and maximize your garden's benefit to pollinators, Eastern Sierra Land Trust has created criteria for you to follow in order to certify your space as pollinator-friendly habitat. *Please note: limit of one certification per property.*

Requirements:

- Three "Food" features
- Both of the two "Water" features
- Two "Shelter" features
- Plants native to California (preferably the Owens Valley) make up at least 50% of your Pollinator Garden space
- No pesticide/herbicide use
- Minimal artificial lighting unless illuminating a structure or hazard

Please note: There are no size or scale restrictions to certify. You may choose to designate areas throughout your property and do not need to be limited to one area. Please specify your area(s) with the consultant at the initial garden visit.

Food Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clump plantings: plant each variety in groups of three (excepting trees) • Seasonality: your garden has three different bloom times • Diversity: your garden has three different scents, three different flower types, and/or three different flower shapes • One bird or butterfly feeder, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Thistle feeders to attract Goldfinches ○ Fruit feeders to attract Orioles ○ Nectar feeders to attract Hummingbirds ○ Rotting fruit set out during butterfly migration • Larval host plants, such as: Milkweed, Indian Paintbrush, Mallow, Hollyhock, Dill, Sunflower, and more
Water Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One water source: wet irrigation ditch, bird bath, natural features, etc. • One water conservation measure: mulching, lawn removal, a drip irrigation system, timers, etc.
Shelter Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three canopy layers – for example, having flowers, shrubs, and trees all nearby • One natural shelter: bare ground, dead wood, brush piles, etc. • One constructed shelter: bird nesting boxes, bat houses, bee boxes, bee nesting logs, etc.

Tips to Enhance your Pollinator Garden:

- Keep your cat indoors, build a "Catio," or put a "Birdbesafe" collar or bell on your feline friend. Cats kill up to 3.7 billion birds each year!
- Reduce bird-window collisions by breaking up external reflections with stickers or plastic wrap.
- Help spread the word. Talk to your neighbors, family members, and friends about the Eastside Pollinator Garden Project. By working together, we can keep the Eastern Sierra blooming for generations to come.
- Plant your baby plants far enough from each other to account for their full growth size. You don't want to crowd your plants!