

History of the Garden

In 2004, a desire for beauty, education, reflection, and a place for the public to gather led the Country Lane Garden Club to design and install an 1894 theme garden at the Adams Library. Led by Sue Spicer, a member of the Club, and experienced landscape designer, the design was influenced by the architecture of the original building, the plants in use at the time and the colonial format of a symmetrical layout with intersecting paths at right angles. In 2021 the Club replanted the Garden to reflect growing concerns with the loss of native species and pollinator populations brought about by climate change.

As with the original installation, the Friends of the Library and the Country Lane Garden Club funded the renovation. The Federation of Garden Clubs of Massachusetts also contributed to this new effort. The renovated design preserves the symmetry and balance of the original.

This garden is primarily seen by people driving around the corner. The Club wanted to provide a more dramatic color impact while also making a statement about the importance of fostering the continuation of native plant species and homes for bees, butterflies, and other insects to perform their all-important work that ultimately provides us with food.

The Club hopes the garden will inspire the people of Chelmsford to make environmentally sound changes in their own gardens.

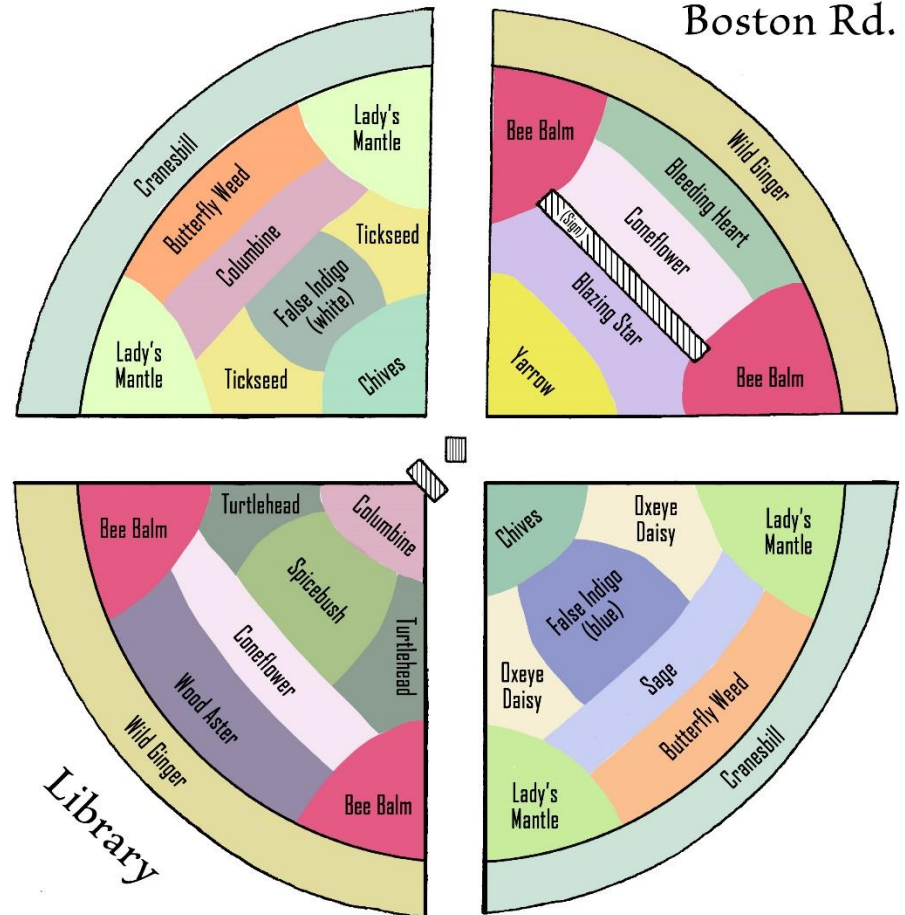
The Pollinator Garden at the Chelmsford Public Library



Designed, installed and maintained by the
Country Lane Garden Club

Plant List for Adams Library Native Plant Pollinator Garden*

Common Name	Botanical Name	Flower Color	Shape	Bloom Time
Beebalm	<i>Monarda didyma</i>	Red	Open, daisy-like shape, with tubular petals	July - August
Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Purple	Tall, stately plumes	Mid-summer - autumn
Bleeding Heart	<i>Dicentra eximia</i>	Pink	Heart Shape flowers	Early Spring
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Orange	Large, flat-topped clusters	May-Sept
Carolina Allspice	<i>Calycanthus florida</i>	Maroon	Dense shrub	Late April - Early July
Chives	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>	Violet	Densely tufted flower	April - May
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Red/Yellow	Delicate small trumpet shaped	April - May
Coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Mauve	Daisy-like flower	June - August
Cranesbill	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	Pink	Five-petal open flower	April - May
False Indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i> (blue)	Blue	Blue flower on stalk	May - June
False Indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i> 'Vanilla Cream'	Cream	White flower on stalk	Late spring - early summer
Lady's Mantle	<i>Alchemilla mollis</i>	Yellow	Star-shaped flowers	June
Oxeye Daisy	<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>	White/Yellow	15-40 petal flowers	June - Sept
Tickseed	<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	Yellow	Daisy-like flowers	Early summer - frost
Sage	<i>Salvia officinalis</i>	Blue	Tubular flowers, gray leaves	Late spring to early summer
Turtlehead	<i>Chelone obliqua</i>	White	Erect, clump forming flower	July - Sept
Wild Ginger	<i>Asarum candense</i>	White	Pitcher-shaped, heart shaped glossy leaves	April - May
Wood Aster	<i>Aster divaricatus</i>	Lavender	Heart or oval shaped leaves	Late summer - Fall
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yellow	Gray green "hair" stem Flat-top lacy flower	April-Sept



*A list of native North American pollinator-attracting perennials was compiled with assistance from the following organizations:

- 🌸 The Xerces Society
- 🌸 The National Audubon Society
- 🌸 The American Horticultural Society
- 🌸 University of Vermont, Dept. of Plant and Soil Sciences
- 🌸 Cornell University Botanic Gardens and Cooperative Extension
- 🌸 David Suzuki Foundation
- 🌸 Pollinator Partnership
- 🌸 Weston Nurseries

The list was reduced to those plants that thrive in New England. Plants whose mature size exceeded the scale of the garden were excluded, as were invasives and plants generally considered "weeds".