

Pollinator Patch Plans:

A Guide to Creating a Habitat Garden in Squamish

Step 1: Define Your Project

In order to guide your decision-making and streamline your process, identify the objectives for your project as well as the actions required.

Consider:

- What purposes would you like your garden to serve?
- What steps need to be taken to achieve these purposes?



For region-specific guides created and distributed by credible sources, check out our [Pollinator Research Resources for the Squamish Area](#) document.



If you are unsure what Step 1 might look like, check out our [Pollinator Patch Goals and Action Items Example](#).



Step 2: Research Your Native Pollinators

Squamish has a diverse community of native pollinators that each have their own unique habitat requirements.

Understanding these requirements is the first step to ensure that your pollinator patch serves its purpose of having a positive conservation impact.

If you are hoping to garden on a site that is publicly owned, see our [Site Use District Approval](#) document for guidance about the process.



Step 3: Identify Your Site

Where is your pollinator garden going to be? Choose a space that has the potential to support your purposes.

Consider:

- **Ecological factors:** area size, current contents, microclimate, soil composition, the surrounding ecosystems, etc.
- **Human impacts:** Who owns the space? Is it a single owner or many? Who are the stakeholders? Who would be affected by modifications to this space?

Step 4: Design a garden plan

A garden plan helps you understand how the features of the chosen site will shape how you achieve your goals for the pollinator habitat. This plan will inevitably change but will give you a starting point to communicate your ideas to others. Consider:

- How will the features of your site (e.g. the sun exposure, soil type) affect what can grow where?
- Where are the logical places to put infrastructure features (e.g. pathways, flowerbeds, etc.)?

For an example of what a garden plan looks like and how it might develop over time, see our [Pollinator Patch Design Progression Example](#).

Step 6: Making, revising, and implementing action plans

Get down to details and figure out how to make your garden plan a reality. Determine which pro-pollinator gardening practices will be feasible to implement at your site, using the resources available in and around Squamish. The gap between best practices and what is "real-world" possible in your garden will likely drive revisions of your plan throughout the project.

For more information, check out our full [Squamish User Manual](#) of pollinator patch resources.

For tips on finding and applying for grants, visit our [Grant Applications](#) resources.



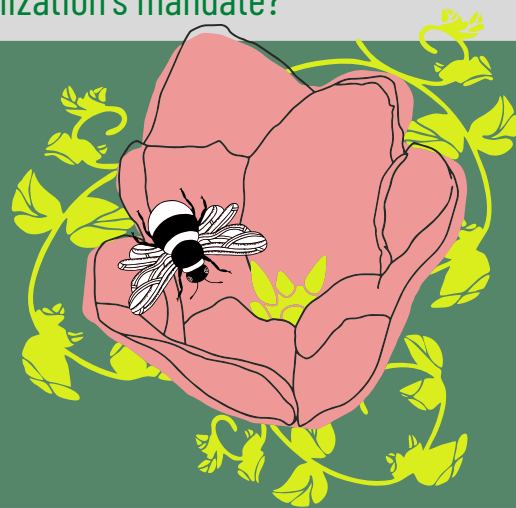
Step 5: Financial feasibility and funding

With your initial garden plan in hand, you can begin to estimate how much the project might cost.

Depending on the size of your project, you might consider applying for an external source of funding, like a grant offered by a government program, environmental society, or private business.

Consider:

- How might your pollinator patch serve the same purpose as the funding organization's mandate?



Steps for the Future: Grow your Garden!

This guide has been created for Squamish gardeners by Quest University student, Emma Dunlop.

