

HAPPINESS IS...

seeing a bee on  
a flower you planted





# Pollinator Gardening Class

Week 2 - Katherine Gambino

[kgambinonyc@gmail.com](mailto:kgambinonyc@gmail.com)

## **Today's Topics**

Calendar of Bloom for native plants

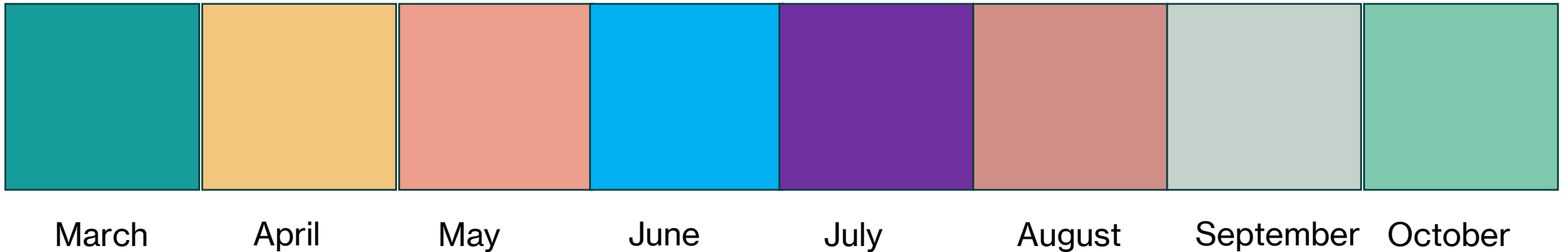
A review of recommended shrubs, trees and flowers

Design guidelines that I recommend

Local sources for native plants

# Calendar of Bloom

- You should plan to have a succession of bloom throughout the growing season, whether you are relying on shrubs, trees, perennial or annual plants, to support the pollinators in your yard.
- Assume that the season begins in March and ends in October







# March

- **Trees**
  - Red Maple
  - Tag Alner
  - Eastern Redbud
- **Shrubs**
  - Pussy Willow
  - Shadbush
- **Perennial Flowers**
  - Smooth Ragwort
  - Crocus



# April

- **Trees**

- Serviceberry
- American Plum
- White Dogwood



- **Shrubs**

- Aronia (Chokeberry)
- American Holly
- Black Raspberry
- Black Elderberry
- Spice Viburnum



- **Perennial Flowers**

- Phlox
- Amsonia
- Columbine



# May

- **Trees**

- American Basswood

- **Shrubs**

- Beautyberry



- **Perennial Flowers**

- Forget-me-not
- Lenten rose
- Foam flower
- Blue flag iris
- Blue globe allium





# June

- **Trees**

- Tulip Tree

- **Shrubs**

- Smooth hydrangea
- Virginia rose
- American holly

- **Perennial Flowers**

- Blue False Indigo
- Canada Anemone
- Wild Bergamot (bee balm)

- **Annual Flowers**

- Swamp Milkweed



# July

- **Shrubs**

- High bush blueberry

- **Perennial Flowers**

- Yarrow (Achillea)
- Agastache (Anise Hyssop)
- Chives
- Brown-eyed Susan
- Pearly Everlasting
- Echinacea

- **Annual Flowers**

- Zinnias



# August

- **Perennials**

- Virgin's Bower
- Joe Pye Weed
- Cardinal Flower
- Great Blue Lobelia
- Blue-stem Goldenrod



- **Annuals**

- Zinnias



# September

- **Perennials**

- Ironweed
- New England Aster
- White Wood Aster
- Montauk Daisy



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2wNDq9S0ps>



# How to grow:

- Zinnias
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRTJp4pqbtg>



# Let's talk design

---

Establish your order shape (a curvilinear shape is more attractive than a straight edge)

---

If you have room, make the bed 3 – 5 feet deep to provide visual depth of field

---

Stagger the height of plantings (low in front, to mid height layer, to tall layer at the back)

---

Use multiples of the same plant but use odd numbers; insert 3, 5, or 7 of the SAME plant; repeat that planting elsewhere in your garden.

---

Pick a color scheme, and keep repeating it (with shrubs, trees, perennials)

---

Use annuals for bursts of color, and for longer lasting bloom

---

Evaluate the bloom calendar to ensure you have flowers in bloom throughout the spring and summer.

---

Use dark mulch to conserve moisture in the ground and to provide a contrast with the flowers

---



A photograph of a well-maintained garden. In the foreground, there's a green lawn. A curved flower bed runs across the middle ground, filled with dark brown mulch and various plants, including several bright yellow shrubs. To the left of the flower bed, there's a wooden bench and a black urn. The background is filled with dense foliage, including large trees and various shrubs. The text "A curved bed is more interesting than a straight edged one" is overlaid in white at the bottom left.

**A curved bed is more interesting  
than a straight edged one**





**More examples**





**Plant in multiples (odd numbers) or clumps of the same plant to create impact and drama**





**Create a layered effect – tall plants in the back, medium plants in the middle layer, and then smaller plants/shrubs in front**



**Repeat the color scheme – subtly –  
throughout the garden**







**Add some whimsical items to create interest**

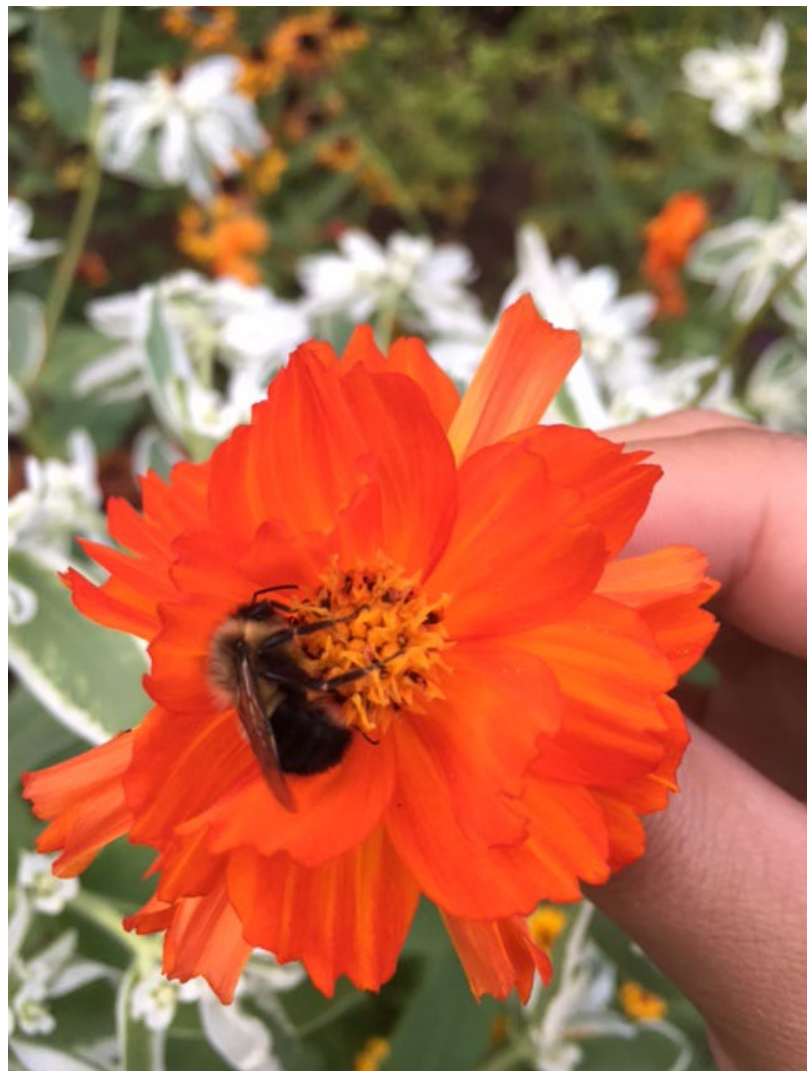




**Add a water feature – large (if you can afford it)  
or small (if you can't)**



# Examples from the Locust Grove garden







**If you plant them, the pollinators will come!**



**Shameless promotion!**  
**Verplanck Garden Club**  
**Spring Plant Sale this Saturday, May 10**  
**Fishkill Town Hall lower level**  
**9am to Noon**



 Garden Club

# PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 10  
9:00am to 12:00pm

Fishkill Town Hall  
807 Route 52 Fishkill

Annuals & Flowering Baskets & Veggies & Herbs  
Perennials from Members' Gardens  
Gifts for Mom & Artwork & Raffle

Visit our Facebook page:  
*The Verplanck Garden Club*