

# “SUPER NINE”

The “Super Nine” are native plants selected for pollinator gardens in our county because of their size, adaptability, beauty, and benefit to wildlife. These native plants thrive in average soil and grow in full sun to partial shade. They grow to a height of about 3 feet and can be planted in groups of 3, 5, or 7 plants for visual appeal.

## What are native plants?

Native plant species evolved within specific regions and adapted to local habitats without human intervention.

## Why are native plants important?

After becoming established, native plants are well adapted to our local climate. Native plants have deep root systems that sequester carbon, reduce erosion, and minimize run-off. These plants provide food and shelter for wildlife, and are larval host plants for many butterflies and moths. They are crucial support for our birds that feed insects and caterpillars to their hatchlings.

## What are keystone species?

This brochure highlights some of our county’s native keystone species. These plants host significant numbers of butterflies and native bees.

## What are specialist bees?

Specialist bees have developed a specific relationship with one or more plant species



Wild Ones promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration and establishment of native plant communities.

For more information about Wild Ones South Bend, visit us at

<https://southbend.wildones.org>



# “SUPER NINE”

## Nectar and Host Plants for Pollinator Gardens



## Golden Ragwort

(*Packera aurea*)



**SPRING BLOOM:** Provides nectar and pollen for 8 specialist bees. Nectar for butterflies. Caterpillar host for at least 5 moth species

## Golden Alexander

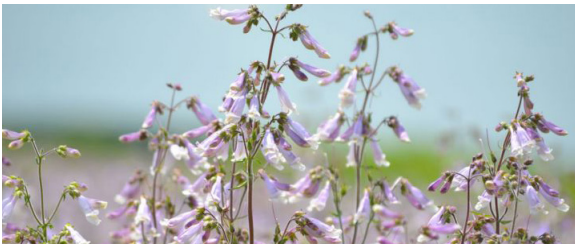
(*Zizia aurea*)



**SPRING BLOOM:** Pollen for 1 specialist bee. Host for Black Swallowtail & at least 2 moth species. Nectar for butterflies & native bees

## Hairy Beardtongue

(*Penstemon hirsutus*)



**SPRING BLOOM:** Pollen for 1 specialist bee. Host for Baltimore Ceckerspot & at least 2 moth species. Nectar for native bees, hummingbirds & butterflies

## Butterfly Weed

(*Asclepias tuberosa*)



**SUMMER BLOOM:** Host for Monarch butterfly & at least 4 moth species. Nectar for native bees & butterflies

## Pale Purple Coneflower\*

(*Echinacea pallida*)



**SUMMER BLOOM:** Pollen for 6 specialist bees. Host for Silvery and Baltimore Checkerspot butterflies & at least 2 moth species

## Black-eyed Susan\*

(*Rudbeckia hirta*)



**SUMMER BLOOM:** Pollen for 31 specialist bees. Host for Silvery Checkerspot butterfly & at least 11 moth species. Nectar for butterflies & moths

## Obedient Plant

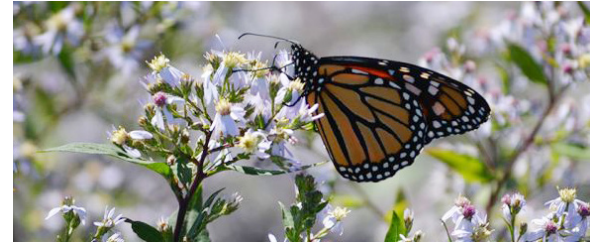
(*Physostegia virginiana*)



**FALL BLOOM:** Host for at least 1 moth species. Nectar for many native bees, butterflies & hummingbird

## Calico Aster\*

(*Symphyotrichum lateriflorum*)



**FALL BLOOM:** Pollen for 31 specialist bees. Host for Pearl Crescent & Silvery Checkerspot butterflies & at least 25 moth species

## Gray Goldenrod\*

(*Solidago nemoralis*)



**FALL BLOOM:** Pollen for 43 specialist bees. Host for at least 30 moth species. Nectar for butterflies & native bees

\*designates a high-value keystone species