



You can see it, can't you? A colorful yard connecting you and your family to nature. Where you watch a caterpillar create a chrysalis and become a butterfly. Or, a nest full of baby birds grow and fledge.

Connect with nature and make a difference. Forrest Keeling will help you create that connection with a low-maintenance, native landscape. A beautiful yard that invites you to enjoy your yard—and, is the envy of your neighborhood.

Resilient native plants work to capture water, build soil, and reduce work and resource use. And, they help preserve our native pollinators and other wildlife, too.

Forrest Keeling grows hundreds of native species with our patented RPM-production method. Our RPM technology allows our plants to develop, flower and fruit faster. And, Forrest Keeling plants survive and thrive better than others on the market.

Native gardens...

- **Come in all sizes.** Create a container or go bigger with a border. Or make a sprawling, turf-minimizing display across your backyard.
- **Can play by the rules.** Native landscapes can work within requirements of your homeowners' association. And, simplify your maintenance.
- **Bring out the kid in you.**
- **Make you a connector.** Every native plant you add is a vital oasis for wildlife.
- **There's no reason not to grow native...** and, at least 10 reasons to start today!



Pollination hows, whys and importance

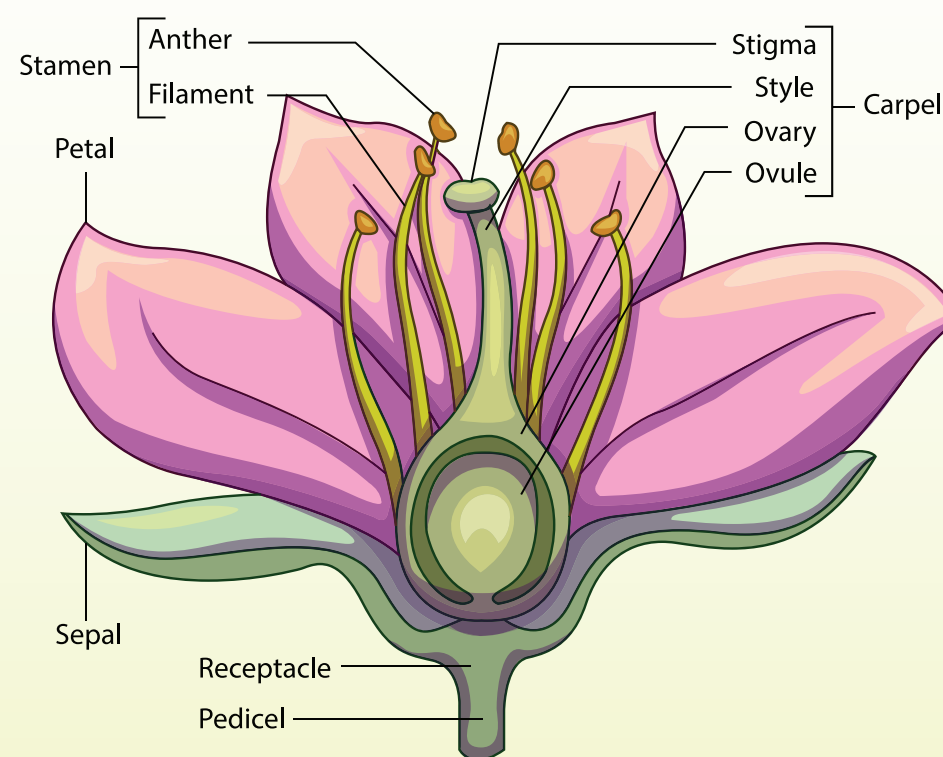
Pollination can occur by wind or water, but the work of pollinators is the main way. Pollinators include bees, butterflies, birds, bats and other animals. Pollination is essential to 95% of all flowering plants and 1/3 of all crops grown for people, including citrus fruits, almonds, berries, cotton, milk and even chocolate!

Pollination is the part of a plant's life cycle required to make seed so new plants can grow. To create seeds, the plant must have pollen moved from the anther (male) to the stigma (female).

Plants attract pollinators with color, shape and fragrance to their food, called nectar.

- **Colors like bright blue and violet attract bees.** Think asters or blue sage. Hummingbirds zero in on the warm reds and pinks. Butterflies like yellow, orange, pink and red.
- **Shapes are key for others.** Hummingbirds like tubular flowers. Cardinal flower and butterfly weed allow them to dip their tongues in for nectar. Butterflies appreciate a flat landing pad shape. Coneflowers, viburnum and blazing star allow butterflies to rest and spread their wings.
- **Fragrance gains the attention of night pollinators like moths and bats.** These 'night-shift' workers seek white and pale-colored flowers that glow in moonlight. Examples include evening primrose, garden phlox, wild hydrangea, summersweet and sweetspire.

When the pollinator takes nectar, they also pick up pollen. When the pollinator visits other flowers, the pollen drops off. Without knowing it, the pollinator has completed the important job of pollination.



FORREST KEELING'S *native favorites*

24 trees

- flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
- redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
- blackgum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)
- swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*)
- white oak (*Quercus alba*)
- nuttall oak (*Quercus nuttallii*)
- yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentukea*)
- fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)
- American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
- sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*)
- dwarf chinkapin (*Quercus prinoides*)
- black cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
- green hawthorn (*Crataegus viridis*)
- sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*)
- bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)
- sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)
- tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
- sweetbay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)
- shumard oak (*Quercus shumardii*)
- mountain silverbell (*Halesia carolina*)
- bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)

- wafer ash (*Ptelea trifoliata*)
- river birch (*Betula nigra*)
- serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborescens*)
- shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*)

17 shrubs

- wild hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborescens*)
- New Jersey tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)
- red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*)
- spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)
- ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)
- American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)
- Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)
- buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
- golden currant (*Ribes aureum*)
- spring witchhazel (*Hamamelis* spp.)
- deciduous holly (*Ilex decidua*)
- American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)
- sweetshrub (*Calycanthus floridus*)
- summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)
- blackhaw viburnum (*Viburnum prunifolium*)
- flameleaf sumac (*Rhus copallina*)
- eastern wahoo (*Euonymus purpurea*)

20 perennials and grasses

- swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)
- blue cardinal flower (*Lobelia siphilitica*)
- wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)
- sweet coneflower (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*)
- New England aster (*Aster novae-angliae*)
- butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- tickseed, *Coreopsis* species
- purple coneflower, *Echinacea purpurea*
- blazing star or gayfeather, *Liatris pycnostachya*
- grey-headed coneflower, *Ratibida pinnata*
- black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- ironweed, *Vernonia novaboracensis*
- wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)
- agastache (*Agastache foeniculum*)
- rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*)
- joe pye weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*)
- little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
- prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)
- northern sea oats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*)
- tussock sedge (*Carex stricta*)



88 Forrest Keeling Lane
Elsberry, MO 63343

(573) 898-5571 phone
(800) 356-2401 toll free

(573) 898-5803 fax
info@fknursery.com e-mail

ForrestKeeling.com

naturally different



1 Oak...your one tree choice

If you only plant ONE tree, let it be an oak.

Forrest Keeling grows 28 species including five native oak hybrids and one selection in sizes up to a #20. Oaks support the widest variety of protein-rich insects critical for fledgling birds.



5 Five native perennials for your rain garden

Five native perennials and five easy steps to create your rain garden

- swamp milkweed
- blue cardinal flower
- wild bergamot
- sweet coneflower
- new england aster

But, there are SO many more! If your garden site is large, add moisture-loving woodies. A few examples are:

- buttonbush
- spicebush
- fragrant sumac
- red buckeye
- summersweet
- oakleaf hydrangea

Create one of these lush gardens as a weekend project with a bit of planning. Once you know the size, you can determine your rain garden's size and what plants you'll use.

1. **Find the square footage of your rain garden.** Divide your home's square footage by the number of downspouts and then divide by three.
2. **Calculate the number of plants needed spaced 18" apart.**
3. **Layout your garden on the down slope of your home at least 10 feet away from its foundation.** Dig out three to five inches of soil to remove grass and create a slight depression within its shape. Mound soil in a shallow berm on the down side of the garden to increase its water retention.



4. **Arrange your rain garden plants.**
5. **Maintenance is simple.** Mulch to prevent weeds during garden establishment. Cut back plants in fall and remove dead vegetation.

2 It takes TWO: host plant + butterfly!

Got milkweed? It's the exclusive diet of monarch butterfly caterpillars.

But, milkweed isn't our only host plant. There are other perennials, shrubs and trees. These special plants feed and shelter butterflies throughout their development.

Include both host and nectar native plants in protected areas of your landscape. Choose species that bloom across the seasons to support a wide variety of butterflies and other pollinators.

Common Native Host Plants for Butterflies

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Flowers: | Grasses: | Trees: |
| • aster | • little bluestem | • flowering dogwood |
| • black-eyed susan | • switch grass | • hoptree |
| • butterfly milkweed | | • pawpaw |
| • common milkweed | Shrubs: | • sassafras |
| • purple coneflower | • blue false indigo | • willow |
| • swamp milkweed | • spicebush | |



6 Six edible species for urban edibles

Edible landscapes foster diverse populations of pollinators, birds and other wildlife. They also help improve soil health by increasing its microorganisms.

- pawpaw
- pecan
- persimmon
- elderberry
- hazelnut
- aronia

Also.... walnut, American plum, butternut, hickory!



7 Seven natives for your shade garden

These seven natives will light up any shade garden. Choose a variety of perennials, shrubs and understory trees to create a lush, layered design.

- red buckeye
- eastern wahoo
- river oats
- flowering dogwood
- hornbeam
- wild geranium
- royal fern



3 Three plant shapes for containers

Create a pretty native 'nature connector' container with these shapes.

- A thriller is a plant with vertical height.**
 - prairie blazing star
 - little bluestem
 - prairie dropseed
- Finally, a trailing plant or vine to spill over the edge.**
 - trumpet creeper
 - wild strawberry
 - wild petunia

A clump-forming plant serves as a filler in your container. Containers are perfect for a small space or for those that prefer a raised planting area. And, once their blooms begin to fade, move these native perennials to a permanent spot in your garden.

- yarrow
- coneflower
- aster
- tussock sedge



8 Eight native trees for fall color

Add brilliant reds, golds and oranges with these native trees for fall color.

- black gum
- nuttall oak
- sassafras
- sugar maple
- scarlet oak
- sourwood
- sweet gum
- bald cypress



4 Four ways to STOP deer and rabbits.

Choose plants with one of these characteristics to discourage deer and rabbits.

- Spiky, tough stems or thorns.**
 - rattlesnake master
 - joe pye weed
 - evening primrose
- Odorous or pungent aroma.**
 - yarrow
 - wild beebalm
 - wild geranium
- Textured, fuzzy leaves.**
 - black-eyed susan
 - coneflower
- Poisonous or bitter tasting.**
 - black cohosh
 - eastern red cedar
 - shining bluestar
 - columbine
 - bugbane



9 Nine species to support pollinators

Bee the change! Pollinators are critical to our survival. One of every three bites of food you eat depends on a pollinator! Add one or more of these nine species to support pollinators:

- aster
- sweetspire
- blue sage
- cardinal flower
- butterfly weed
- blazing star
- coneflower
- wild hydrangea
- viburnum



10 Ten top native alternatives

Roughly 1/3 of our landscape plants are exotic imports from Europe and Asia.

They didn't evolve with wildlife, so they don't support species through their life cycles. Butterflies may like the nectar of butterfly bush. But, their caterpillars are not supported. Same with Bradford pear. Without caterpillars, fledgling birds starve.

Invasive plant species crowd out native species that support our wildlife. The result? Declining wildlife populations and less diverse plant communities.

When you plant native species you help restore the earth's healthy ecosystem, one tree (or plant) at a time. Here are ten native woody alternatives:

- eastern wahoo
- viburnums
- spicebush
- sumacs
- buttonbush
- sweetspire
- serviceberry
- dogwoods
- redbud
- oaks