

Notice the distinctive flowers and foliage of Woodmere's Springtime Pollinator Garden:



Agastache foeniculum

Anise Hyssop

Touch the leaves and smell their licorice scent. In June, small blue-purple flowers bloom in spike-like clusters that whorl around their long stems. Flowering continues until late autumn, attracting bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and songbirds. Seeds can be used in cookies, cakes, and muffins; flowers can be used as a seasoning or in tea. Leaves turn purple in the fall.



Baptista australis

False Indigo or Wild Indigo

Look for clusters of small, blue or yellow flowers that bloom on long upright stems of blueish green foliage. Butterflies and bees are able to open or reach into the pea-like flower and access nectar.



Calycanthus floridus 'Aphrodite'

Sweetshrub

Sweetshrub's deep, red blooms open in May. Get close and smell their light, fruity scent. Flowers continue to rebloom for weeks. These shrubs grow to be 6-8 feet tall.

Hydrangea quercifolia

Queen of Hearts and Snow Queen (Oakleaf Hydrangea)



Notice how the leaves of this multi-stemmed shrub are similar in shape to the leaves of an oak tree. (Find a young oak tree nearby at the far end of the parking lot.) There are two different kinds of oakleaf hydrangeas in our garden: Queen of Hearts was selected for conical-shaped clusters of flowers that open white but gradually age to pink; Snow Queen is noted for its large green foliage and abundant clusters of white flowers for which it is named. Listen for the many songbirds that use these large plants to nest. Come back in summer to see their blooms and in fall when leaves turn deep red.

Physocarpus opulifolias

Ninebark



The beautiful, wine-red colored leaves of Ninebark distinguish this shrub in Woodmere's garden. Look for other Ninebark shrubs with yellow-lime green foliage. In mid-May, 1-2 inch clusters of small pinkish flowers appear. This shrub is a favorite nesting plant for birds and attracts bees, wasps, moths, and butterflies. Its papery bark brings visual interest in winter.



Melissa officinalis

Lemon Balm

Lemon Balm is a bushy herb in the mint family. Its deliciously lemon-scented leaves have a wrinkly texture with serrated edges. Tiny, tube-like, white flowers will appear throughout the summer, attracting bees and butterflies.



Myrica Pensylvanica

Bayberry

This large shrub grows to be 6-8 feet tall. Its glossy, narrow, green leaves are rounded at the top and taper towards its base. The leaves' scent may remind you of Wrigley spearmint gum. Its fruits in late summer attract many birds.



Nepeta

Catmint, Catnip

This long-blooming herb plant, part of the mint family, attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Its strong scent is also attractive to cats, and the reason for its name. In spring, its blue-green foliage becomes covered with small, lavender-blue flowers that will keep flowing through the seasons.



Rhus aromatica 'Gro-Low'

Fragrant Sumac

The plant provides a dense, low-spreading ground cover that blooms in early spring with tiny, yellow flowers. Its green to bluish-green leaves are serrated at the top and curve down to a rounded base. When crushed, the leaves have a lemony scent.



Viburnum Dentatum

Arrowwood Viburnum

Notice the serrated edges of this plant's yellow-green leaves. The buds of its flowers are now forming. Come back soon to see how small white flowers mature into clusters up to 4 inches wide. The flowers and fruits attract butterflies, bees and songbirds.