

Sowing Your Pollinator Project Patch



1. Choose a **fine day** when the soil is neither too wet nor too dry.
2. Choose an area about 1 x 1 metre - either in an existing flower bed, a section of your lawn or a few containers.
3. If using a section of your lawn remove the turf first until you are down to bare clean earth. Dig over the soil with a fork or spade and **break up or put aside any large clumps**. Remove all existing weeds and grasses so the flowers don't have any competition, together with any large stones.
4. **Rake the soil** so it's fine and crumbly - lumpy soil may bury seeds; if it's too hard, roots will be unable to penetrate the ground.
5. Ideally, leave your prepared soil for about **two weeks** so any dormant weeds or grasses that come to life can be removed before you sow your seeds.
6. **Scatter your flower seeds** over the soil by hand - a little at a time for an even spread. **Top tip:** to make spreading easier, mix seeds with a small amount of dry play sand so you can see where you've sown them.
7. Rake the soil again - gently - to just cover the seeds with a very thin layer (1mm) of fine crumbly soil.
8. **Seeds need sunlight**, so be careful not to bury them or they won't grow.
9. Very gently, water the whole area using a watering can, taking care not to wash your seeds away.
10. Label the area with a plant marker (and it is a good idea to include the sowing date).

After Sowing Your Seeds - Keep Your Seedlings Watered

It's critical to water flowers in the ground regularly after sowing and while the seedlings are establishing in the **first six weeks**.

You should aim to water your freshly sown Pollinator Patch **twice a week** and more frequently in hot weather.

Make sure the soil remains moist and water it if dry. This is the most vulnerable time for seedlings which can be killed if the soil dries out completely.

Your seeds should germinate within a couple of weeks, depending on the weather, be patient and keep looking out for the tiny green shoots of life.

Remember to post your pictures to our Facebook Page of your Pollinator Patch as it blooms. if you have any queries contact us. We are here to help you help Pollinators. **Good luck!**