Planning your garden – think like a pollinator.

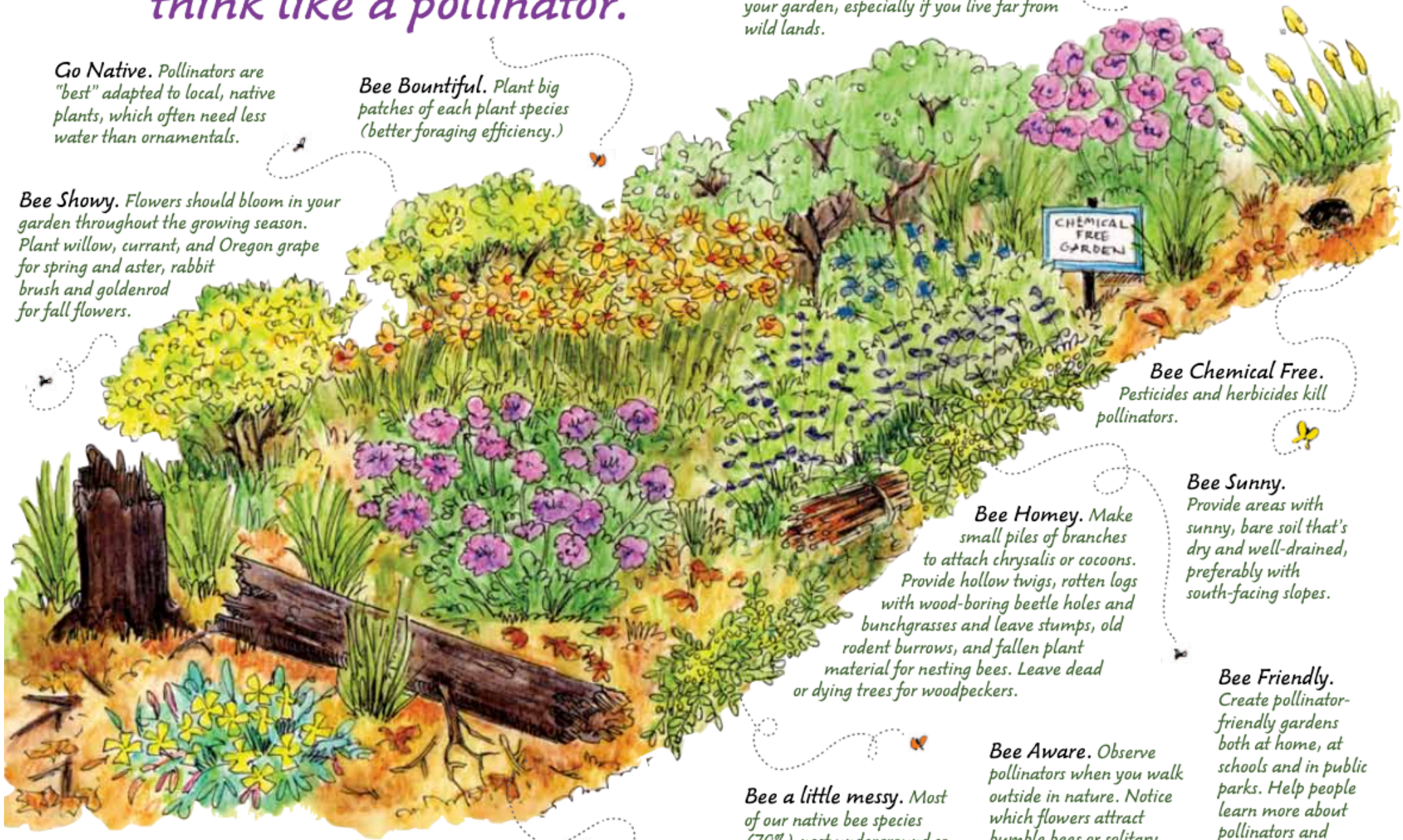
Bee Patient. *It takes time for native plants to grow and for pollinators to find your garden, especially if you live far from wild lands.*

Bee Gentle. *Most bees will avoid stinging and use that behavior only in self-defense. Male bees do not sting.*

Go Native. *Pollinators are "best" adapted to local, native plants, which often need less water than ornamentals.*

Bee Bountiful. *Plant big patches of each plant species (better foraging efficiency.)*

Bee Showy. *Flowers should bloom in your garden throughout the growing season. Plant willow, currant, and Oregon grape for spring and aster, rabbit brush and goldenrod for fall flowers.*



Bee Chemical Free. *Pesticides and herbicides kill pollinators.*

Bee Sunny. *Provide areas with sunny, bare soil that's dry and well-drained, preferably with south-facing slopes.*

Bee Homey. *Make small piles of branches to attach chrysalis or cocoons. Provide hollow twigs, rotten logs with wood-boring beetle holes and bunchgrasses and leave stumps, old rodent burrows, and fallen plant material for nesting bees. Leave dead or dying trees for woodpeckers.*

Bee Friendly. *Create pollinator-friendly gardens both at home, at schools and in public parks. Help people learn more about pollinators and native plants.*

Bee Aware. *Observe pollinators when you walk outside in nature. Notice which flowers attract bumble bees or solitary bees, and which attract butterflies.*

Bee a little messy. *Most of our native bee species (70%) nest underground so avoid using weed cloth or heavy mulch.*

Bee Diverse. *Plant a diversity of flowering species with abundant pollen and nectar and specific plants for feeding butterfly and moth caterpillars.*

Gardening for Pollinators (US Forest Service)
https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/gardening.shtml