

Pollinator Patch Plans:

Creating Habitat Gardens in Squamish

Step 1: Research Your Native Pollinators

Squamish has a diverse community of native pollinators that each have their own unique habitat requirements.

Understanding these requirements is the first step to ensure that your pollinator patch serves its purpose of having a positive conservation impact.



If you are unsure what this might look like, check out our [Pollinator Patch Goals and Action Items Example](#).



Step 3: Identify Your Site

Where is your pollinator garden going to be? Choose a space that has the potential to support your purposes.

Consider:

- **Ecological factors:** area size, current contents, microclimate, soil composition, the surrounding ecosystems, etc.
- **Human impacts:** Who owns the space? Is it a single owner or many? Who are the stakeholders? Who would be affected by modifications to this space?

For region-specific guides created and distributed by credible sources, check out our [Pollinator Research Resources for the Squamish Area](#) document.



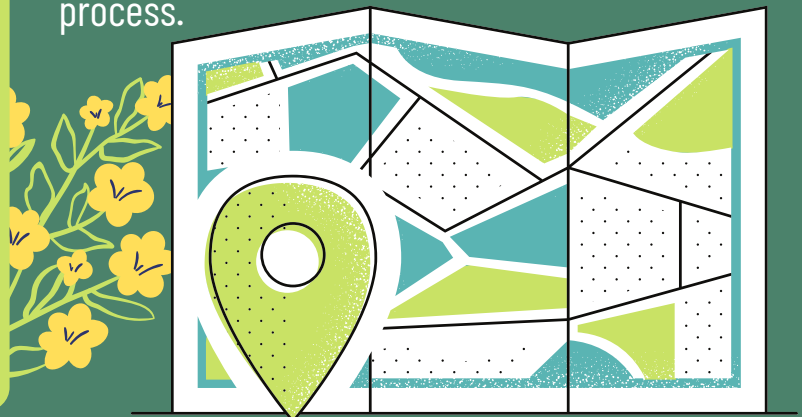
Step 2: Define Your Project

In order to guide your decision-making and streamline your process, identify the objectives for your project as well as the actions required.

Consider:

- What purposes would you like your garden to serve?
- What steps need to be taken to achieve these purposes?

If you are hoping to garden on a site that is publicly owned, see our [Site Use District Approval](#) document for guidance about the process.



Step 4: Design a garden plan



A garden plan of the space is an opportunity to understand how the features of your site will shape how you achieve your goals for your pollinator garden. This plan will inevitably change but will give you a starting point to communicate your ideas to others. Consider:

- How will the features of your site (e.g. the sun exposure, soil type) affect what can grow where?
- Where are the logical places to put infrastructure features (e.g. pathways, flowerbeds, etc.)?

For an example of what an initial plan looks like and how it might develop over time, see our [Pollinator Patch Design Progression Example](#).



Step 6: Making, revising, and implementing action plans



Get down to details and figure out how to make your garden plan a reality. This means determining which pro-pollinator gardening practices will be feasible to implement at your site, using the resources available in and around Squamish. The gap between best practices and what is "real-world" feasible in your garden will likely drive revisions of your plan throughout the project.

Step 5: Financial feasibility and funding



With your initial garden plan in hand, you can begin to estimate how much the project might cost.

Depending on the size of your project, you might consider applying for an external source of funding, like a grant offered by a government program, environmental society, or private business.

Consider:

- How might your pollinator patch serve the same purpose as the funding organization's mandate?



For tips on finding and applying for grants, visit our [Grant Applications](#) resources.



Implementation resources like Squamish-specific plant and tool source guides and exemplar plant lists can be found in our [Patch Implementation Resources](#).

Steps for the Future: Grow your Garden!

