



LONGFIELD  
GARDENS

# GROW *Pollinator Friendly* BULBS



[melindamyers.com](http://melindamyers.com)

## ALWAYS CHECK PLANT TOXICITY WHEN PETS AND CHILDREN ARE A CONCERN

### KID AND PET TOXICITY INFORMATION

Use botanical names when researching toxicity of plants. Common names vary on websites and with gardeners. Using the botanical name will ensure you obtain information about the correct plant.

- For Pets
  - [American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals](#)
  - [Important Tips from Penn Vet to Keep Pets Safe During the Holidays](#)
- For People
  - [University of California Safe and Poisonous Garden Plants](#)
  - [Children's Hospital of Philadelphia](#)
  - Common Plants What's Poisonous and What's Not
    - University of Wisconsin Hospital & Clinics
    - 800-815-8855
  - Handbook of Poisonous and Injurious Plants Third Edition
    - New York Botanical Gardens, Lewis S Nelson MD & Michael J. Balick PhD
- For Pets and People
  - [North Carolina State University Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox](#)

### MAKE SURE THE PLANTS YOU SELECT ARE NOT INVASIVE IN YOUR AREA

- [Invasive Plant Atlas](#)
- Your Local Department of Natural Resources
- University Extension Services
- Nature Centers

### BULBS AND POLLINATORS

- [What Dyck Arboretum Observed](#)
- [This from the University of Georgia](#)
  - *"We predicted that gardens with native plant species would benefit pollinators more, compared to non-native plantings," said Majewska. "Surprisingly, we didn't see that effect in our meta-analysis, perhaps because both types of plants provide similar resources."*
- [Cornell University on Non-native Plants and Pollinators](#)
- [A Bit on Nativars from the University of Maryland](#)
- [Agriculture and Pollinator Plants](#)

## Longfield Gardens

Longfield Gardens provides high quality flower bulbs and perennials to home gardeners. We offer plants for every region and every season, from tulips and daffodils to dahlias, caladiums and amaryllis.

Longfield Gardens is in business to help you enjoy a more beautiful yard and garden. Our family-owned company is located in Lakewood, N.J. and we have more than 80 years of combined experience in the horticulture industry. Selling bulbs and perennials is our passion as well as our livelihood.

We take pride in our products and in our service. As part of our commitment to quality products, we maintain our own trial garden for testing varieties and developing combinations. We also produce how-to articles, videos and blog posts so you'll have the information and inspiration you need to create a beautiful yard and garden.

Shop our online store at [\*\*longfield-gardens.com\*\*](https://www.longfield-gardens.com) and let us help you grow a more beautiful garden.



- **Overview of Pollinators and Various Flower Shapes and Reproduction**

- One way to do this is to plant flowering bulbs attractive to pollinators, such as crocuses, in lawns. This provides a flush of early season nectar and pollen before mowing season begins. Research at the University of Arkansas showed good establishment of such bulbs by creating holes in existing sod, setting the bulb and covering it with loose soil. Bulbs could also be set before installing new sod.

- **Different Flowers Attract Different Pollinators**

## PLANNING FOR A LONG SEASON OF BLOOM

- Longfield Gardens Bloom Time Chart for Spring & Summer Flowering Bulbs



### **WINTER ACONITE**

*Eranthis hyemalis*

- Zones 3 to 7
- Full to part sun
- Moist, organic, well-drained soil
  - Drought tolerant
- Bees, butterflies, other pollinators
- Deer resistant
- Black walnut tolerant

### **CROCUS**

*Crocus species*

- Zones 3 to 8
- Full sun to part shade
- Flowers close in low light
- Well-drained soil, adaptable
- Bees
- Rodents love the corms ,rabbits eat the flowers
- Deer tend to leave them be
- Black walnut tolerant
- *Crocus tommasinianus*
  - Early, squirrel resistant

### **GLORY OF THE SNOW**

*Chionodoxa luciliae*

- Spreads readily, currently not considered invasive
- Zones 3 to 8
- Full sun to part shade+
- Well-drained soil
- Honeybees, native bees
- **Deer and drought resistant**
- *C. forbesii* **'Blue Giant'**

### **NETTED IRIS**

*Iris reticulata*

- Zones 5 to 9
- Full to part sun
- Deer resistant
- Black walnut and drought tolerant

### **YELLOW TROUT LILY**

*Erythronium americanum*

### **WHITE TROUT LILY**

*Erythronium albidum*

- Zones 3 to 8
- Part to deep shade
- Moist, occasionally wet soil, good drainage

- Bees, butterflies, ants, other pollinators

### **TULIPS**

*Tulipa species and hybrids*

- **Tulipa species**
  - Early to mid-spring bloomers, more pollinator appeal
- Zones 3 to 8
- Full sun
- Organic, well-drained soil
- Bees, pollinators
- Deer and rabbits love
- Black walnut tolerant

### **WIND ANEMONE**

*Anemone blanda*

- Zones 5 to 9
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil, occasionally dry
- **Bees**
- Drought and clay soil tolerant
- Native **Anemone caroliniana**



### **About Melinda**

Nationally known gardening expert, TV/ radio host, author & columnist Melinda Myers has over 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including Can't Miss Small Space Gardening, the recently revised Midwest Gardener's Handbook, and Jackson and Perkins' Beautiful Roses Made Easy. She hosts the nationally-syndicated "Melinda's Garden Moment" program airing on radio stations throughout the U.S. Melinda also hosts the internationally distributed Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD/ Instant Video series, including the latest Food Gardening for Everyone DVD set. She is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine, and writes a nationally-distributed gardening column. She appears regularly as a guest expert on national and local television and radio shows.

Visit Melinda's website,  
**[melindamyers.com](http://melindamyers.com)**

## DAFFODIL

*Narcissus*

- Lots of variety
- Zones 3 to 8
- Full sun to part shade+
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Bees, butterflies
  - *N. jonquilla* and *N. poeticus* best for pollinators
- Wildlife resistant
- Naturalizing

## VIRGINIA BLUEBELLS

*Mertensia virginica*

- Zones 3 to 9
- Part to deep shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Bees, moths, hummingbirds, flies
- Spreads readily
- Mask large leaves that decline late spring
- Rabbit resistant
- Black walnut tolerant

## HYACINTHS

*Hyacinthus orientalis*

- Zones 4 to 8
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Wear gloves when handling bulbs
- Bees
- Deer and rabbit resistant
- Black walnut and drought tolerant

## GRAPE HYACINTHS

*Muscari*

- Zones 3 to 9
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Multiply rather quickly
- Leaves reappear in fall
- Bees, butterflies
- Deer and rabbit resistant
- Black walnut tolerant

## CROWN IMPERIAL

*Fritillaria imperialis*

- Zones 4 to 8
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, good drainage key, occasionally dry
- A scaly bulb, often planted on its side to avoid rot
- Skunk smell, some believe, dissuades animals
- Bees, butterflies
- Deer and rabbit resistant
- Black walnut and drought tolerant

## CHEQUERED LILY

*Fritillaria meleagris*

- Zones 3 to 8
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil, occasionally wet
- Bees, butterflies
- Deer and rabbit resistant

## SPANISH BLUEBELLS

*Hyacinthoides hispanica* formerly

*Scilla hispanica*

- Zones 3 to 8
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil,
- Bees
- Wear gloves when handling bulbs
- Deer resistant
- Black walnut and drought tolerant

## WHITE TRILLIUM

*Trillium grandiflorum*

- Zones 3 to 7
- Part shade
- Moist, organic, well-drained soil
- Look for those commercially propagated, not collected from the wild
- Bees, moths, flies, ants, other pollinators

## RED TRILLIUM

*Trillium erectum*

- Zones 3 to 7
- Part shade
- Consistently moist, well-drained soil
- Look for those commercially propagated, not collected from the wild
- Bees, moths, flies, ants, other pollinators

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## **MAYAPPLE**

### **Podophyllum peltatum**

- Zones 4 to 8
- Part to full shade
- Moist, organic, well-drained soil
- Spreads by rhizomes
- **Box turtles and possibly other mammals eat the fruit and help propagate**
- Fruit and other plant parts are poisonous if eaten in large quantities
- **Queen bumblebees**
- Deer and rabbit resistant
- Black walnut and dry soil tolerant

## **COLUMBINE**

### **Aquilegia canadensis**

- Zones 3 to 8 (2 to 9 East of the Rockies, per UW Madison)
- Full sun to part shade+
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Weak rhizome, reseeds readily
- **Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, hawk moths**
- Deer resistant
- **Crimson Star Columbine**

## **ORNAMENTAL ONIONS**

### **Allium species**

- Zones 3 to 9
- Full sun to part shade
- Well-drained soil
- Reseeds readily
- Bees, butterflies
- Deer resistant
- **A. senescens spp. glaucum**
- **A. bulgaricum**

## **CAMASSIA**

### **Camassia**

- Zones 4 to 9
- Full sun to part shade
- Good drainage, tolerates wet soil
  - Rain garden suitable
- Native bees
- Deer and vole resistant

## **BEARDED IRIS**

### **Iris hybrids**

- Miniature dwarf
  - Earliest bloomer, 8" tall
- Standard dwarf
  - Next to flower, 10 to 15" tall
- Intermediate
  - Next to flower
- Tall bearded - formerly *Iris germanica*
  - Last to bloom, tallest
- Zones 3 to 9
- Full sun
- Moist, well-drained soil, occasionally dry
- Plant at or slightly below soil surface

- Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
- Deer resistant
- Drought tolerant

## **SIBERIAN IRIS**

### **Iris sibirica**

- Zones 3 to 8
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil, occasionally wet
- Four seasons of interest
- **Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, ants, wasps**
- Deer and rabbit resistant
- Black walnut and drought tolerant

## **RED HOT POKER, TORCH LILY**

### **Kniphofia**

- Zones 5 to 8
- Full sun (best), part shade
- Well-drained soil is key, occasionally dry
- Rhizomatous root system
- Bees, hummingbirds, pollinators
- Deer and rabbit resistant
- Salt tolerant

## **DESERT CANDLE**

### **Eremurus**

- Zones 5 to 8
- Full sun
- Moist, organic, well-drained soil
- Rhizomatous root system
- Hummingbirds, butterflies, pollinators
- Deer and rabbit resistant
- Drought and poor soil tolerant

## **A BIT ON SPRING PLANTED SUMMER FLOWERING BULBS**

- Often called "bulbs" this group includes **corms, true bulbs, rhizomes, tubers & tuberous roots**
- Spring planted bulbs like it warm and are frost sensitive
  - Wait for overnight temperatures to consistently hover around 60°F or warmer
  - Jump start the season by starting them in containers in a warm sheltered spot
  - **Start the bulbs indoors** then transplant into the container
- Slow start, big finish
  - Enjoy the foliage early in the season as a backdrop to other container gardens
  - Then move them to the front to enjoy the big show mid-summer to fall
- Overwintering where not hardy
  - **Winter Storage for Summer Bulbs and Tubers**
  - **Digging and Storing Tender Bulbs**

## **CALLA LILY**

*Zantedeschia aethiopica*

- Rhizome
- Zones 8 to 10
- Sun (in the North) to shade (hotter locations)
- Moist to wet soil, can be grown in water
- Flowers early in the season
  - Later in the season when planted in spring
  - Spathe is colorful leafy part
  - Spadix contains the true flowers
- Foliage plain green or speckled, attractive all season
- Damaged at temps below 45°F (7°C)
- Good cut flowers
- Plant 3 to 4" (7.6 to 10 cm) deep, with eyes facing up
- Plant 3 rhizomes in a 12" (30.5cm) diameter pot or 4" (10cm) on center
- Wait for soil to warm to 65°F
- Water sparingly until new growth begins, then more generously
- Two or more weeks to sprout
- Winter care
  - Cure in warm, dry location for 1 to 2 days
  - Store in peat moss, vermiculite, sand or sawdust
  - Dark 50°F (10°C) location
- Bees
- Deer and rabbit resistant

## **CRINUM LILY**

*Crinum species*

- Zones 7 to 10, varies with species
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Wait for night temps to stay above 40°F, preferably 50°F, to move outdoors
- Winter care
  - Move indoors before frost where not hardy
  - Cure and store bulb in moist sand 35 to 45°F or overwinter indoors in a cool, brightly lit location
- Butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, pollinators
- Deer resistant; drought, salt and heat tolerant

## **HARDY LILY**

*Lilium species*

- True scaly bulb
- Zones 4 to 9
- Best in full sun, will tolerate some shade
- Moist, well-drained soil, good drainage key to success
- Needs chill to flower
  - Plant bulbs in fall if winters are cold enough
  - Purchase in fall and force bulbs for 15 weeks at 35°F (2°C) to 45°F (7°C)
  - Purchase and plant chilled bulbs in spring
- Plant bulbs 6" deep, 6 to 8" apart
  - Groups of 3 or more for best display
  - In containers, plant 3 to 4 bulbs in 8" (20cm) diameter or 2 to 3 gallon (7.5 to 11 liter) pot
- Overwintering lilies in containers
  - Move bulbs to garden in fall
  - Sink pot into the ground for winter
  - Store pots in unheated garage in cold climates or the refrigerator
    - ◆ May not be as floriferous the following year, if used for cutting
- **Major Pest - Red / Scarlet Lily Leaf Beetle**
  - **How to Control Lily Leaf Beetles**
  - Overwinter as adults in the soil, plant debris or sheltered location
  - They emerge with the lilies and begin feeding and mating
  - Lay eggs on the underside of the leaves
  - Larvae most destructive stage
  - Pupate, then adults emerge and feed until they hibernate for winter
- Butterflies, hummingbirds
- An animal favorite
- **All About Lilies**
- **Types of Lilies**
- **Eight Tips for Growing Better Lilies**
- **Plant Lilies for a Summer Garden of Elegant and Fragrant Blooms**
- **Grow Lilies in Nursery Pots**

## **CROCOSMIA, MONTBRESIA**

### *Crocasmia*

- Invasive in some areas - West coast and parts of Southern US, Hawaii
- Zones 5 to 9
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, pollinators
- Deer and rabbit resistant

## **SPIDER LILY, SUMMER DAFFODIL**

### *Hymenocallis*

#### *Hymenocallis festalis* 'Zwaneneburg' shown

- Bulb
- Zones 8 to 10
- Full sun to part shade
- 1 bulb per 8" (20cm) pot or 3 bulbs per 15" (38cm) pot
- Neck of bulb even with soil
- Water sparingly until bulbs sprout
- Overwintering
  - Store in container
  - Dark, 55°F (13°C) to 60°F (15.6°C)
- **Bees, butterflies, moths, pollinators**
- Deer and rabbit resistant
- Wet soil and salt tolerant

## **BLAZING STAR**

### *Liatris* species

- Zones 3 to 9, varies with species
- Full sun
- Moist, well-drained soil
- 2 to 3' or more tall
- 2' wide
- **Long lasting cut flower**
- Planting
  - Plant corms 3" deep with smooth side down and sprouts facing up
  - Space 5" apart
  - Spring planting will likely have flowers in 70 to 90 days

- Bees, butterflies, pollinators
- Drought tolerant

## **GLADIOLUS**

### *Gladiolus*

- Corm
- Zones 7 and warmer
- Full sun to light shade
- 60 to 120 days from planting to flower
- Flowers available in a wide range of colors
- **Plant corms** 3 to 6" (7.6 to 15cm) deep
- In containers plant 5 corms in 12" (33cm) diameter pot
- Stagger plantings by 2 weeks or use various varieties to extend bloom time
- **Creative staking**
- Overwintering
  - Cure 2 weeks
  - Store uncovered with good air circulation
  - Dark, 40°F (4.5°C) location
- Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, moths
- Squirrels dig corms, rabbits and deer may eat

## **PINEAPPLE LILY**

### *Eucomis*

- Bulb
- Zones 7 to 10
- Full sun (shade midday in hotter regions)
- Florets open from bottom to top
- Start flowering 6 to 8 weeks after planting
- Flowers in white, pink and violet
- Leaves may be green or burgundy
- 18 to 24" (46 to 61cm) tall
- Planting
  - Wait for soil to warm to 65°F or start indoors
  - 3 to 4" (7.6-10cm) deep, 5" apart
  - 3 bulbs in 12" (30cm) diameter pot

- Can take 3 to 6 weeks to sprout
- Overwintering
  - Cure in ventilated area until leaves are dry
  - Store bulbs in a plastic, ventilated bag
  - Or leave bulbs in container for winter
  - Store in a dark, 45°F (7.5°C) to 50°F (10°C) location
- Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds

## **CANNA**

### *Canna*

- Rhizome
- Zones 7 (8 or 9) to 10
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist to wet, well-drained soil
- **Many choices of flower and foliage color combinations**
- 1.5 to 5'+ (.45 to 1.5m) tall
- **Planting**
  - 1 rhizome in 18" (46cm) diameter pot, keeping scale in mind
  - Plant rhizome 3 to 4" (7.6 to 10cm) deep
- **Growing canna in water gardens**
  - Remove plant from soil
  - Rinse off soil
  - You can line pot with burlap or weed barrier to keep soil in pot with drainage holes
  - Plant with crown of the plant below the rim of the pot
  - Fill pot to 2" (5cm) below the rim with water garden potting mix
  - Top with gravel or small stone to keep soil in place
  - Lower pot slowly into water - leaving top few inches of pot above water
- Winter care where not hardy
  - Cure overnight
  - Store in peat moss
  - Dark, 45°F (7°C) to 50°F (10°C) location
- **Hummingbirds, pollinators**
- Japanese beetles are a major pest

## **DAHLIA**

### *Dahlia*

- Tuber (tuberous root)
- Zones 8 to 11
- Full sun to light shade (midday and afternoon shade in hotter regions)
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Mulch soil, especially in hotter regions
- 1 to 5' (.3 to 1.5m) tall
- **Dahlia Types and Sizes**
- **Planting**
  - Plant 4' deep and 12 to 24" apart
  - Stake tall varieties at planting to avoid root damage
  - Soil must be warm 60°F or more
  - Takes 2 weeks for shoots to appear - so be patient
  - Once sprouted, starts growing fast
- **Growing Dahlias in Containers**
  - Growing dahlias in hot weather (Zones 9 and 10)
  - Plant in September for November and December blooms
  - Cut back when yellow (December to January)
  - Plants sprout in February and flower April and May
- Dahlias make excellent cut flowers
  - Pick dahlias at their prime, before the petals begin to soften. They do not continue to open once removed from the plant.
  - Use sharp scissors or hand pruner and cut back to main stem (same for deadheading)
- Overwintering
  - Cure for several hours
  - Store in peat moss, vermiculite or sawdust
  - Dark, 45°F (7°C) location
- Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
- **Animals may be an issue, earwigs common pest**



## AUTUMN CROCUS

*Colchicum autumnale*

- Zones 4 to 9
- Full sun to part shade
- Moist, well-drained soil
- Leaves emerge in spring, die back after 6 to 8 weeks
- Leafless flowers appear late summer or fall
- Bees, butterflies
- Deer and rabbit resistant
- Drought tolerant

## PLANTING SPRING FLOWERING BULBS

## AFTER CARE OF HARDY BULBS

## PROTECTING BULBS FROM ANIMALS

# UPCOMING APPEARANCES & WEBINARS

*Check often as more appearances and webinars continue to be added.*

**Webinar March 19<sup>th</sup>**

*Be a Waterwise Gardener*

**March 21<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>**

REALTORS Home & Garden Show

**Webinar March 26<sup>th</sup>**

*Succession Planting and Crop Rotation*

**Webinar March 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Rain Garden Q&A*

**Webinar April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*Container Gardens for Sun and Shade*

**Webinar April 10<sup>th</sup>**

*Reinvigorate Your Rain Garden*

**April 12<sup>th</sup>**

Pasquesi Home & Gardens

**April 26<sup>th</sup>**

Ebert's Greenhouse Village

**Webinar May 7<sup>th</sup>**

*Vertical Gardening*

**May 10<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>**

Ebert's Greenhouse Village

**Webinar May 15<sup>th</sup>**

*7 Steps to Managing Water on Your Property*

**Webinar May 4<sup>th</sup>**

*Attracting Hummingbirds*



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Midwest Lawn Guides

Minnesota & Wisconsin Getting Started Garden Guide

Month-by-Month Gardening in Minnesota & Wisconsin

Michigan Getting Started Garden Guide

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