

# Hummingbird Heroes

6 Native Plant Collection  
Part Shade

6



This perennial collection is perfect for partly shady spaces that get around three to six hours of sun per day.

This 6-plant collection grows to fill a space up to about 4x6 feet; perfect for a small garden bed or patio containers. These plants offer brightly colored tubular flowers that attract and provide nectar for hummingbirds, while also supporting other key wildlife species, including butterflies, moths, and bees.

Bloom times vary for each plant (as noted below), with the collection as a whole serving wildlife for three seasons each year.

## Meet the Plants

(2 of each plant)

**Cardinal Flower**  
*Lobelia cardinalis*



Grows to 2 - 4 Ft  
Spreads 1 - 2 Ft

Blooms July - October

**Foxglove Beardtongue**  
*Penstemon digitalis*



Grows to 2 - 5 Ft  
Spreads 1.5 - 2 Ft

Blooms May - July

**Wild Bergamot, Bee Balm**  
*Monarda fistulosa*



Grows to 1 - 4 Ft  
Spreads 2 - 3 Ft

Blooms May - September

## Basic Planting Tips

- Make a hole in the soil slightly wider than and equal in depth to the plant package.
- Loosen plugs from packaging by pushing up from the bottom, being careful to not hold plants by their stems.
- Cup the root mass in your hand and gently place into the hole. Pat down soil around the plant base. Add mulch to help retain moisture, taking care that the mulch does not touch plant stems, and water thoroughly.
- Water these plants daily for the first two weeks as their roots are established. If the weather is hot and dry, continue to water regularly.

*Never use herbicides or pesticides in or near your wildlife garden.*

## Tips for Planting in a Garden Bed

When planted in the ground, these plants will spread wider and grow taller, while also helping underground soil systems.

- Prepare a 4' X 6' area: Remove lawn, weeds, and break up soil. Amend with organic compost.
- Once plants mature and bloom, they will fill out the space and require less mulch to prevent weeds and retain moisture.
- Add a bird bath or make a puddling dish using a clay saucer to collect rainwater, along with some pebbles, to create a resting and drinking spot for wildlife.

## Tips for Planting in a Container

These plants may be planted in containers; however, it is possible that they will grow large over time and require staking, trimming, or dividing to maintain suitable size.

- To plant the entire collection in one container, you will need a minimum 36" round container or 3' X 4' rectangle box or raised bed with drainage holes.
- Individual plants can also be planted in their own smaller containers, each at least 12"-24" inches round or square.
- Layer containers as follows:
  1. 2" of broken clay pot or small rocks of various sizes on top of holes at the bottom.
  2. A mix of potting soil with organic compost.
- Add a stake with a small water dish to provide a water source for visiting wildlife.

