

Weekly Newspaper Article

September 7, 2021

Presentation on Pollinators Given

By Lydia Holley

Master Gardener Janelle Cole will present "Playing with Pollinators" on Tuesday, September 14, 5:30 p.m., Clint W. Murchison Memorial Library, 121 S. Prairieville, Athens. This presentation is a part of Henderson County Master Gardener Association's "Learn at the Library" series. This series is given on the second Tuesday of each month. The presentations are free and open to the public. No registration is required. Due to spacing limitations, social distancing will not be possible. Masks are optional.



Cole has long been an advocate for pollinators. She will share how much fun is generated by seeing pollinators in your garden, and what you can learn from them. Not only will she tell you why they are so important, you will also learn how to attract them.

Do you know the difference between host plants for food and larval plants? Should you have more of one kind? What are the best plants for each type in our area? Cole will list plants that need no extra care, so you can spend more time looking at the beautiful butterflies that come to your garden and less time on maintenance.

Are you aware that some pollinators prefer certain colors? What about shapes? Cole will list the colors most chosen by various pollinators and the importance of shape. For instance, hummingbirds like a bloom with a long throat, while butterflies like to alight on top. Come find out which shape and color the pollinator you wish to attract likes.

Cole will list her favorite pollinator-attracting plants that thrive in East Texas. She will offer resources for choosing the plants you want. But choosing plants is just one part of the presentation. Cole will discuss everything that goes into developing a pollinator garden. She will explain soil preparation, fertilization, and irrigation.

You will not want to miss this presentation. Pollinators are not only beautiful, they are necessary. Come learn how to grow a garden to attract and nourish their needs.

For more information, call 903-675-6130, email <u>hendersonCMGA@qmail.com</u>, or visit <u>txmq.org/hendersonmq</u>.