

Welcome Bugs Into Your (Garden) Bed [Inbox](#) x

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A Better World  
*Today*

April 1, 2021



**How (and Why) to Welcome  
Insects Into Your Yard**

As winter phases into spring across the U.S., gardeners are laying in supplies and making plans. Meanwhile, as the weather warms, common garden insects such as bees, beetles, and butterflies will emerge from underground burrows or nests within or on plants.

Most gardeners know how beneficial insects can be for their plots. Flies pollinate flowers. Predatory bugs, such as the spined soldier bug, eat pest insects that otherwise would tuck into garden plants.

As a scientist whose research involves insects and as a gardener, I know that many beneficial insect species are declining and need help from humans. If you're a gardener looking for a new challenge this year, consider revamping all or part of your yard to support beneficial insects.

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YES! Media  
284 Madrona Way NE, Suite 116  
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