SAVE THE BEES: PLANT FLOWERS AND TREES!

Pollinators require nectar and pollen plants.

Trees, shrubs, and flowers that bloom from April to September create a consistent food supply for pollinators to complete their life cycles. Ground covers (ajuga, squill, crocus, clover, creeping Charlie) are also favorable. In spring, overwintering female bees emerge from sandy soil to forage and do not return to the overwintering sites. Do not kill these bees; doing so prevents future generations. In fall, large females appear again. Bees are unlikely to sting; simply avoid making sudden movements that may startle them.

Wasps such as yellowjackets, paper wasps, and hornets are sometimes mistaken for bees. They are seen at picnics in late summer when their nests are empty. Wasps are beneficial predators and should be left alone if possible. If control is absolutely necessary, containers of sugar water will trap them. Pesticides can harm pollinators. For more information visit www.entomology.umn.edu/cues/pollinators

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**Early Season**
- Serviceberry (Amelanchier species)
- Pussy willow (Salix discolor)
- Carolina lupine (Thermopsis villosa)
- Siberian squill (Scilla sibirica)

**Early-Mid Season**
- Wild rose (Rosa species)
- Basswood, linden (Tilia americana)
- Garden sage (Salvia nemorosa 'May Night')
- Catmint (Nepeta x faassenii)

**Mid Season**
- Purple prairie clover (Petalostemum candidum)
- Swamp milkweed (Asclepias incarnata)
- Billiard's spiraea (Spiraea x billardii 'Triumphans')
- Catnip (Nepeta cataria)

**Mid-Late Season**
- Anise hyssop (Agastache foeniculum)
- Wild bergamot (Monarda fistulosa)
- Sunflower (Helianthus species)
- Globethistle (Echinops species)

**Late Season**
- New England aster (Symphyotrichum novae-angliae)
- Goldenrod (Solidago species)
- Korean angelica (Angelica gigas)
- Stonecrop (Sedum species)

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Bumble bees are large (10 to 23 mm in length), hairy, ground-nesting bees. Some species, such as Bombus impatiens, are used to pollinate greenhouse crops.

Bumble Bee (Bombus ternarius)

This European species is used for pollination and for honey, propolis, and beeswax production. Bees are 10 to 15 mm in length and colonies survive winter on stored honey.

Blue Orchard Bee (Osmia lignaria)

The blue orchard bee is a mason bee that uses mud to divide its brood cells. This bee belongs to the same family as leafcutter bees and is an important fruit pollinator.

Leafcutter Bee (Megachile sp.)

Leafcutter and mason bees are solitary, 3 to 20 mm in length, and usually nest in cavities. Leafcutter bees use bits of leaves and flowers to wrap brood cells for their young.

Mining Bee

Mining bees can be as small as 2 mm or as large as 25 mm in length. All species nest in the ground. Some species are important apple pollinators and can move more pollen than honey bees!