



Bee Friendly

Bees have a huge impact on our food supply as they pollinate farmers' fields. Without bees, we would not have food. With the widespread use of pesticides and loss of habitat threatening their survival, bee populations can use a little help from the home gardener. You can create a bee-friendly environment by doing a few of these simple things:

- **Feed the bees.** Include plants that provide nectar and pollen. The list below includes some of our favorite bee-friendly plants.
- **Be chemical-free.** Any pesticides used in your yard to eliminate the bad bugs, may be hurting the good guys. Plants under stress are more likely to be attacked by insects, so keeping plants healthy will lessen the need for chemical control. Always plant the right plant in the right spot!
- **Vary bloom times.** Including plants that flower in succession from spring to fall, will keep bees happy through the year. With the food they collect, they will have enough honey in the hive to keep them alive through the cold, winter months.
- **Incorporate simple flowers.** Double blooms, with all those petals, can be very showy, but are generally not as nectar-rich. It is easier for bees to reach the inner flower parts of those less frilly, single blooms.
- **Provide a drink of water.** Adding some pebbles to a birdbath or shallow water bowl, allows bees to land safely while getting some fresh water.

TREES	SHRUBS
Serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier</i> spp.) Common Hackberry (<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>) American Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>) Hawthorne (<i>Crataegus</i> spp.) Honeylocust (<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>) Kentucky Coffee Tree (<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>) Tulip Tree (<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>) Crabapple (<i>Malus</i>) Linden (<i>Tilia</i> spp.) Blackhaw Viburnum (<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>)	Chokeberry (<i>Aronia</i> spp.) Summersweet (<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>) Northern Bush Honeysuckle (<i>Diervilla</i> spp.) Winterberry (<i>Ilex verticillata</i>) Sweetspire (<i>Itea virginica</i>) Privet (<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>) Ninebark (<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>) Spirea (<i>Spiraea</i> spp.) Blueberry (<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>)

PERENNIALS	ANNUALS
Yarrow (<i>Achillea</i>) Hyssop (<i>Agastache</i>) Ornamental Onion (<i>Allium</i>) Butterfly Weed & Milkweed (<i>Asclepias</i>) Aster (<i>Aster</i>) Bellflower (<i>Campanula</i>) Tickseed (<i>Coreopsis</i>) Purple Coneflower (<i>Echinacea</i>) Liatris (<i>Liatris</i>) Bee Balm (<i>Monarda</i>) Catmint (<i>Nepeta</i>)	Beardtongue (<i>Penstemon</i>) Russian Sage (<i>Perovskia</i>) Black Eyed Susan (<i>Rudbeckia</i>) Sage (<i>Salvia</i>) Stonecrop (<i>Sedum</i>) Goldenrod (<i>Solidago</i>)

ANNUALS
Alyssum Bidens Cleome Cosmos Heliotrope Herbs (allowed to flower) Lantana Nasturtium Sunflower Verbena Zinnia