

There are over 3,500 species of native bees in the US. Most are gentle, small and non-stinging. Our native bees are the **most effective pollinators** – more than honeybees! Native bees are extremely valuable for crop pollination. Honeybees are European and form hives which they protect. It is our goal here to provide food, nectar, shelter and nesting areas for our native bees. Bees are constantly under threat from non-native honeybees, birds, spiders, exotic plants, vehicles, disease, chemicals, pavement and lawns. Please **do not use any harmful chemicals** in your yard to manage for weeds, insects or fungus: learn to create a **healthy balance** of plants and animals that will keep harmful ones out.



Providing **nesting areas** for bees is important to keep them safe from harm. 60-70% of bees dig tunnels in soil to lay eggs; they will not nest in mulch, so be sure to keep **bare soil areas** in your gardens.

About 30% of our native bees use dead limbs to build their nests in. Do not cut down and dispose of all the **dead vegetation** on your property: many insects and animals will use twigs, leaves and logs for protection, nesting or foraging. Bee boxes can be purchased or constructed to attract wood-nesting bees.

Bees require **sunny areas** and **protection from strong winds**. Bees are attracted to many plants that produce nectar and pollen. Plant these in large and diverse groups to attract a wide variety of bees and other insects. Install plants that bloom at different times of the year, providing nectar and pollen throughout the growing season.

## Some Native Plants to Use to Attract and Feed Bees:



Aster species  
Beardtongue  
Blackhaw  
Blue Lobelia  
Blue Vervain  
Butterflyweed  
Cardinal Flower  
Common Boneset  
Coreopsis  
Culver's Root  
Cup Plant  
Elderberry  
Golden Alexander  
Goldenrod species  
Grayheaded Coneflower  
Horsemint  
Ironweed  
Joe-Pye Weed  
Meadowsweet  
Monkey Flower  
New England Aster  
Nodding Wild Onion  
Purple Coneflower  
Redbud  
Rose species  
Serviceberry  
Strawberry  
Sumac  
Sunflower species  
Swamp Milkweed  
Turtlehead  
Virginia Mountain Mint  
Wild Bergamot  
Willow



Most native bees are unlikely to sting. Yellow jackets and other wasps that you often see around garbage, pop cans and picnics are not bees and are *not* significant pollinators.

# BEE- aut i fuL Gardens

Landscaping and Gardening  
with Bees in Mind



**Naturally Native Nursery**  
**20525 Johnson Road**  
**South Bend IN 46614**  
**Phone: 419-833-2020**  
**Email: [nnn@naturallynative.net](mailto:nnn@naturallynative.net)**  
**Website: [www.naturallynative.net](http://www.naturallynative.net)**

**Open by Appointment**  
**Orders accepted by phone or email**  
**Shipping Always Available**

Great native plants to attract bees:



Turtlehead



Cardinalflower



Wild Lupine



Showy Goldenrod



Blue Vervain



Common Milkweed



Butterflyweed



Blazing Star



Blue Lobelia



Wild Bergamot



Tall Ironweed



Wild Strawberry



Hoary Vervain



Partridge Pea



Common Boneset



Obedient Plant



For Sale: Bee Boxes for your garden



Pasture Rose



Beardtongue



Grass-lyd Goldenrod



Smooth Aster

