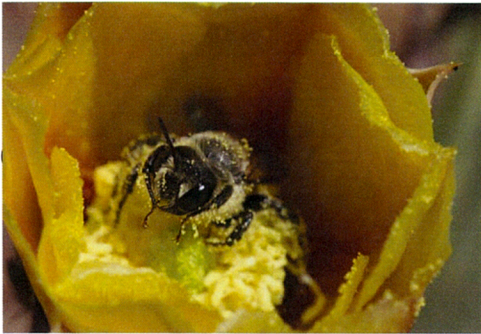


FOOD



Native DiggerBee Photo by Rebecca Ditgen

Perennials (except where noted as annual)

Bergamot or Bee Balm	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
Common Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Cosmos (annual)	<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i>
Cowpen Daisy (annual)	<i>Verbesina encelioides</i>
Firewheel or Indian Blanket	<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>
Fleabane	<i>Erigeron speciosus</i>
Globemallow	<i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>
Ironweed	<i>Vernonia missurica</i>
Maximilian Sunflower	<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>
Mexican Hat	<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>
Prairie Sunflower (annual)	<i>Helianthus petiolaris</i>
Purple Prairie Coneflower	<i>Monarda citriodora</i>
Rocky Mountain Bee Plant (annual)	<i>Cleome serrulata</i>

Shrubs

Apache Plume	<i>Fallugia paradoxa</i>
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Golden Currant	<i>Ribes aureum</i>
Skunkbush Sumac	<i>Rhus trilobata</i>
Western Sand Cherry	<i>Prunus besseyi</i>
Woods Rose	<i>Rosa woodsii</i>

Trees

American Plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>
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Be sure to have many different kinds of flower shapes, sizes, colors and structure, and that bloom at different times of the season. This will attract a greater diversity of bees and provide food throughout the season.

Bees, including native bees, pollinate 80% of flowering plants, and about 75% of our fruits, nuts, and vegetables. Helping native bees is essential for our survival, they help maintain a healthy ecosystem.

SHELTER

Some 60-70% of native bees dig burrows in the ground or are ground nesters. These include the Bumble, Squash and Gourd bees. The other 30-40% are cavity-nesters. These bees include Carpenter (Xylocopa), Leafcutter (Megachile), Yellow-faced (Hylaeus) and Mason (Osmia) bees.



Bee House Photo by Joy Mandelbaum

Houses

Building a Native Bee House can be as simple as a block of wood with holes drilled in it, or "hotel"

Materials

Hardwood (untreated), bamboo – or use your imagination with drift wood, dry reeds, roofing tiles, etc.

Construction

Cut wood into 12-16" lengths, or use a wood block.

Drill holes about 1" apart with diameters of 1/8", 5/16", 3/8" and 1/2" and 3-5" deep for the smaller holes and 6-8" for larger holes, not going through to the end. Mason bees are particularly desirable to attract as an alternative to honey bees. They use 5/16" holes.

Roof with overhang, to help protect from rain.

Place house 3-4' above the ground, or for the wood block place on a fence post, tree or building.

Face house southeast, for morning warmth.