Did You Know?

- It is estimated that one third of our food supply depends on insect pollination, most of which is done by bees.
- Over 15 billion dollars a year in U.S. crops are pollinated by bees.
- Flowers provide the nectar and pollen resources that bees feed on. Growing the correct flowers, shrubs and trees provides bees with these necessary resources.
- Research suggests that native plants are four times more attractive to native bees than exotic flowers

What You Can Do?

Include a diversity of flowering plants in your project. By having several flowering species at once, and a sequence of plants flowering through spring, summer, and fall, you can support a range of bee species that fly at different times of the season.

Chose several colors of flowers and plant them clustered into clumps of one species to attract more pollinators than individual plants scattered through the habitat patch.

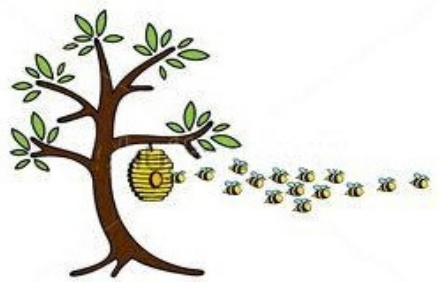
Include flowers of different shapes. Bees are all different sizes, have different tongue lengths and will feed on different shaped flowers.

Colony Collapse Disorder

Researchers have estimated that about one-third of all honey bee colonies have vanished since 2006. Why are all the bees disappearing?

Scientists believe that the reason behind the missing bees is a combination of factors such as Global warming, pesticide use, habitat loss and parasites.

- Global warming has caused flowers to bloom earlier or later than usual resulting in unreliable food sources for bees during critical times.
- Studies show that pesticides targeting other insects have shown to disrupt bees central nervous systems depleting the bees ability to navigate from food sources to hives.
- Parasites present in an already weakened hive can be fatal to that colony.
- Habitat loss from development, abandoned farms, lack of pollinator friendly plants and minimal wildlife buffers.



Promoting Pollinators

Putting Conservation on the Ground

WACD Plant Material Center
16564 Bradley Road
Bow, WA 98232

Phone: 360-757-1094
E-mail: pmcsales@gmx.com
Web: http://www.wacdpmc.org/

Bloom Times for Bees

Indian Plum
(Oemleria cerasiformis)
February to March

Pacific Crabapple
(Malus fusca)
April to June

Mock Orange
(Philadelphus lewisii)
June to July

Red Flowering Currant
(Ribes sanguineum)
February to March

Bitter Cherry
(Prunus emarginata)
April to June

Oceanspray
(Holodiscus discolor)
June to August

Salmonberry
(Rubus spectabilis)
March to May

Elderberries
(Sambucus spp.)
April to June

Snowberry
(Symphoricarpos albus)
June to August

Serviceberry
(Amelanchier alnifolia)
March to June

Willows
(Salix spp.)
April to May

Douglas Spirea
(Spiraea douglasii)
June to August

Oregon Grape
(Mahonia spp.)
March to May

Golden Currant
(Ribes aureum)
April to June

Roses
(Rosa spp.)
June to August

Maples
(Acer spp.)
March to June

Pacific Ninebark
(Physocarpus capitatus)
May to June

Twinberry
(Lonicera involucrata)
June to August