

Want to help?

Build a Bee House. Here's how:

- With drill bits of various sizes (5/16th of an inch works best for Mason bees) simply take some scrap lumber and drill holes 3 to 5 inches deep but not all the way through the wood block. For example, get a 4 inch by 4 inch piece of wood and drill holes that are 3 and 1/2 inches deep.
- You can cover the holes with chicken wire to help keep birds away from the bee house.
- Securely place the bee house on the south side of buildings, fence posts, or trees.
- Scatter some of the houses throughout your community.
- DO NOT move bee houses after they are in place until at least November.
- DO NOT spray insecticides on or around bee houses.
- If you choose to build your own bee houses, DO NOT use treated wood.

This is us building bee houses!



BEE INFORMED



Extra Info!

- There are 150 types of Mason Bees, they have super sight and they can fly 15 mph and their wings beat 200 times per second.
- Mason Bees are solitary bees, which means that the females find nests, gather food, lay eggs, and protect the eggs.
- Mason Bees don't make honey, they eat pollen.
- When Mason Bees become adults, females mate with males and females lay eggs and die 10 weeks later



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Orchard bees.com, www.keepingbackyardbees.com
ecolandscaping.com, www.gardeners.com
Crown bees.com, thehoneybeeconservancy.org
blog.workman.com

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SAVE THE BEES!



- Mason Bees have a 95% pollination rate, while Honey Bees only have a 5% pollination rate.
- Mason Bees lack finesse, they land on flowers willy-nilly covering themselves in pollen like velcro so it's looser and can redistribute to other flowers better.
- Male Mason Bees don't have stingers, and females will only sting if trapped or squeezed.



FACT:

The most common species of mason bee found in the Pacific Northwest is the Orchard mason bee or Blue orchard bee. Known for being great pollinators, orchard bees look very similar to common house flies — with black bodies and a dark blue iridescent sheen.

Why are Mason Bee's endangered?

- Pesticides are killing them and they are major pollinators so there would be drastic consequences on food and plant supplies and also animal life if these bees went extinct

MORE INFO ABOUT BEES & CARE

Including information about houses , caring for the bees and flowers.

WHERE TO PLACE THE HOUSES:

- East or southeast so the house gets morning sun
- At least three feet off the ground
- Must be a supply of mud or dirt near the house during the nesting period

Plant these pollinators to help feed your bees and never use insecticides.



Poppies

HOW TO CARE FOR THE BEES:

- Set the house outside in early spring around march 1 or when chance of frost has pasted.
- Don't move the houses during nesting
- Store house in garage or out of elements starting in Nov.
- The bees need chilly temperatures during the hibernation and three days to warm up before they come out



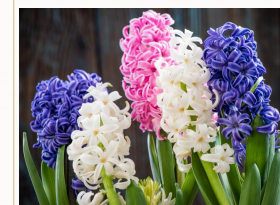
Black eyed Susans



Asters

HOW TO CLEAN A WOODBLOCK STYLE HOUSE:

- Once the bees are out for sure the following spring turn the house upside down and knock out excess clay by spanking the wood
- Then use a pipe cleaner to clean out remaining mud from holes. Your bee house can now be used to house new baby bees.



Hyacinths



Fruit tree blossoms