

MOST COMMON SPECIES IN UTAH

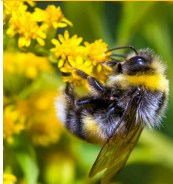


Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera*)

They live in organized hives, made of workers, drones, and a queen. A single honey bee only makes 1/12 of a teaspoon of honey throughout its life.

Leaf-cutting bee (*Megachile spp*)

They cut leaves with their strong mandibles, and are covered with dense hairs. They are solitary bees and live alone in nests or hollow plant stems.



Bumble bee (*Bombus spp*)

They are around 2 cm in length and have hairy bodies. They are social insects and live in colonies underground. They are most active during the summer.

Sweat bee (*Halictidae spp*)

They have green heads and are very docile. They are attracted to moisture and live in dead wood or underground burrows. They have slender bodies.



Large Carpenter bee (*Xylocopa spp*)

They are solitary, and they excavate dead wood and wooden structures for nesting. It is one of the largest bees in the world.

Mason bee (*Osmia spp*)

They are solitary and docile to humans. They build brood cells in hollow plant stems. They can come in shades of metallic blue, green, and black.



Squash bee (*Peponapis pruinose*)

Squash bees only collect pollen from squash flowers. They nest in the ground near areas with squash, pumpkins, and gourds.

Small carpenter bee (*Ceratina spp*)

They have shiny, dark appearances. They have slender bodies. They are solitary and nest in stems and twigs.



SOLUTIONS



Plant a Pollinator Garden

Plant a variety of native plants in a sunny spot



Create a Bee Bath

Help bees hydrate safely during pollination



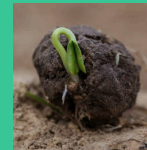
Create a Bee House

Make a home for solitary bees who don't live in hives



Make Seed Bombs

Restore native plant populations and attract bees



For more information, educational resources, and activity instructions, scan the QR code.

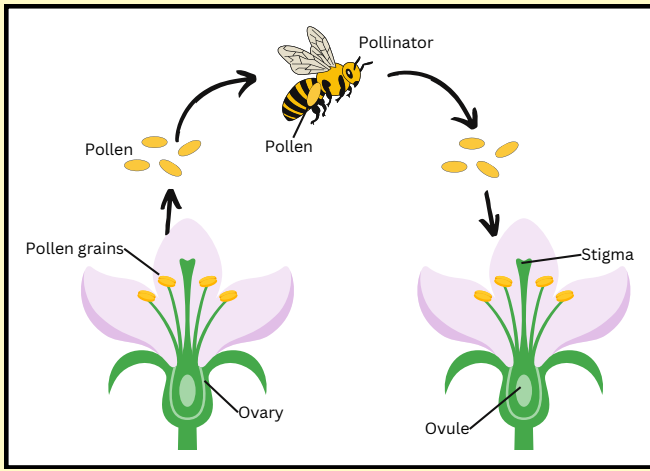


GUIDE TO SUPPORTING BEE POPULATIONS

From identifying common Utah species to learning about possible solutions you can implement, this will tell you all you need to know to promote bee pollination.

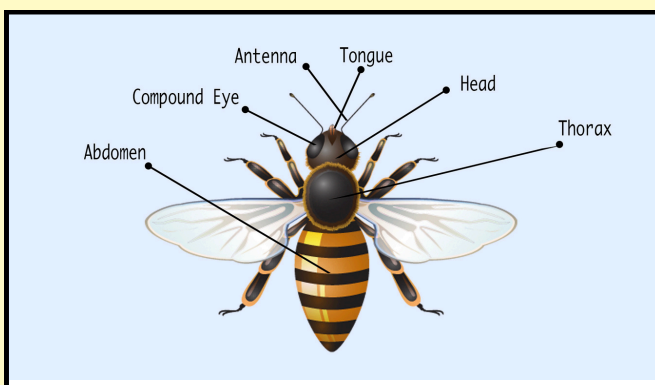


HOW POLLINATION WORKS



When a bee collects nectar and pollen from a flower, some pollen from the stamen – the male flower reproductive organ – sticks to its body hairs. When it visits another flower, some of that pollen goes onto the stigma – the female flower reproductive organ. This allows the plant to make seeds.

PARTS OF A BEE



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THREATS TO BEES

Climate Change

The shifts in temperature, droughts, and flooding disrupt bees' ecosystems. It makes it harder to overwinter, to create nests, and to reproduce.

Invasive Bees and Plants

Invasive bees compete with native ones for resources, making it harder to survive. Invasive plants prevent the growth of native plants, which support bees.

Habitat Loss

Human development gets rid of places for bees to feed, breed, and nest. The making of roads, farms, and non-native gardens get rid of areas bees need for survival.

Pesticides

Pesticides get rid of floral plants that bees rely on, and they affect reproduction. Pesticides harm their natural navigation, memory, and sometimes kill them.

Low Genetic Diversity

Commercial bee colonies compete with native populations. This causes lower immunity and makes bees more vulnerable to the shifting climates.

BEE IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

- Bees pollinate 71 of the 100 crops that provide 90% of the food supply.
- In North America, honey bees pollinate 95 kinds of fruits.
- Pollination is vital to 250,000 species of flowering plants.
- One bee colony can pollinate 300 million flowers each day.
- One single bee can visit up to 5,000 flowers a day.



SOURCES

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- <https://utah.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/celebrating-nebraska-pollinators/>
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