

## WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR POLLINATORS

Design plantings and gardens to have continuous flowering of plants from spring to fall.

Use native plants that provide nectar for all life-stages of pollinators.

If using non-natives, be sure to check that they are not invasive (many spread by seed or berry, you won't see it happen).

Use old-fashioned varieties of ornamental flowers when possible to ensure fragrance and nectar/pollen needed is adequate.

Avoid using pesticides - if you must use them, select the least toxic available and spot apply them at night when most pollinators are inactive.

**For great information about pollinators, visit [www.xerces.org](http://www.xerces.org)**

## MAINTENANCE

Mason bee boxes should have paper straws inserted into the holes and be replaced once young have left the nest.

Discard used bumble bee boxes when bees move out and replace to keep sanitary conditions.

Do not place a nest where it will surely fail due to predators.

### **Nesting Sites:**

Nest boxes should be placed in areas such as along the edges of forests, fences, and on or near buildings, poles, or trees.

The more sites that boxes are placed, the more options the pollinators have to choose from, increasing the odds of successful occupation.

Place nest boxes where a natural nest or site for the given species you are hoping to attract would likely occur.

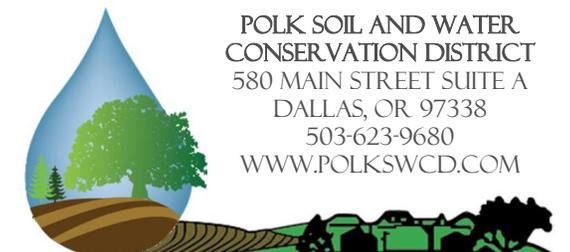
## Polk Soil and Water Conservation District



# POLLINATORS WHAT THEY ARE AND HOW TO HELP THEM

**Basic pollination syndrome character table.**

FLOWER	bats	bees	beetles	birds	butterflies	flies	wind
color	dull white, green, purple	bright white, yellow, blue	dull white, green	orange, red, white	orange, red, purple	pale and dull to dark brown or purple, often veined	dull green or brown
odour	strong, fruity	fresh, mild, pleasant	fruity, spicy	none	spicy, none	putrid	none
shape	regular, bowl-shaped, closed during day	shallow, landing platform, tubular	large, bowl-like	large, funnel-like, no landing platform but strong perch support	narrow tube, wide landing pad	shallow, funnel-like or trap-like	regular, small, stigmas exerted, petals absent or reduced
bloom time	night	day	day	day	day	day and night	anytime
nectar	abundant, somewhat hidden	usually present	sometimes present, not hidden	ample, deeply hidden	ample, deeply hidden	usually absent	none



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# BUMBLE BEES

## Facts:

- Bumblebees are known by their yellow and black banded 'fuzzy' appearance.
- They are social and form colonies.
- They are not aggressive or prone to stinging.

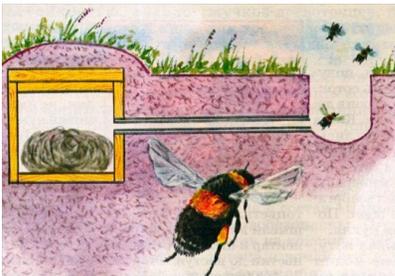
## Location:

- Placed in full or partial shade.
- Insulated from excessive moisture by putting wood or bricks underneath.
- Placed away from areas of disturbance or heavy mowing.
- Buried with wood chips or mulch to assist in temperature regulation, keeping the entrance open.
- In place by March, if no colony by July, put in storage until next March.



## Height:

- Place the entrance 4-10 inches above ground, or buried, where there is no chance of it being flooded.



# BATS

## Facts:

- Bats can eat up to 1000 mosquitoes an evening.
- Bats are nocturnal mammals.
- Bats are the only mammals capable of flying.
- With more than 1,100 different species, bats comprise 25% of all mammals.



## Location:

- In an open area facing in the south southeast.
- Where they will receive at least 6 hours of direct sunlight.
- If possible within 1/4 mile of streams or ponds where insect populations are high.
- Within 10-30 yards of cover.
- On trees, poles, or the sides of buildings, with an open area on at least one side for bats to maneuver while flying.



## Height:

- Place boxes 12-15 feet above ground.



# MASON BEES

## Facts:

- Mason bees are solitary, but like to nest in areas together.
- There are 4 main types of Mason Bees native to Oregon.
- They are very good at pollinating orchard fruits.
- They are not prone to stinging and are considered very safe.
- Mason bees can, like other native bees, resemble a house fly.
- These bees are solitary in nature, and will use small holes for nesting.



## Location:

- Put in a place that will be protected from rain and wind.
- Placed on either south or east facing structures where they can receive morning sun.



## Height:

- Place the nest box 3-5 feet above the ground.

