

Conservation Actions Checklist for Native Bees & Pollinators

Modified from Bees: An Identification and Native Plant Forage Guide (Holm 2017)

Beneficial Actions – The Do's	Destructive Actions – <i>The Don'ts</i>
Nesting Habitat	Nesting Habitat
☑ Prevent soil disturbance	☑ Tilling soil
 ☑ Prevent soil compaction ☑ Leave areas of bare soil, especially on slopes/banks 	 Compacting soil by driving vehicles/equipment on landscape Creating large soil disturbances by scraping soil/uprooting large woody plants
 ✓ Preserve existing ground-nesting sites 	 Example a second as a second se
☑ Leave standing dead trees	Removing all leaves from the landscape
☑ Leave and/or add downed logs	Removing branches/downed logs
☑ Leave leaf litter	Fragmenting existing habitat
Leave perennial flower stalk stubble when cutting down plant material in spring as potential sites for cavity-nesting bees	☑ Increasing the size of lawns
☑ Add or leave rocks with holes for nesting cavities	Cutting down and removing plant material/stems in fall
☑ Perform rotational prescribed burns in sections of a site with a multi-year timeline	E Covering bare soil with mulch, plastic, or plants where nesting sites occur
	Covering soil with plastic and/or landscape rock
Foraging Resources	Performing a prescribed burn over the entire site in one season
Provide a continuous succession of flowering plants from spring to fall	Not replacing liners/stems or cleaning man-made cavity nests every two years
Plant a diversity of native plants with different flower forms and floral resources	☑ Destroying rodent holes
Plant specialist-specific native plants	

☑ Provide a shallow source of water and refresh every 5-7 days	Foraging Resources
	Planting hybrids/cultivars bred for color change or double blooms that restrict pollinator access or offer fewer or no floral rewards
Plant Selection & Placement	Planting only annuals
☑ Remove nonnative invasive plant species while minimizing soil disturbance	Mowing/spraying forage plants
Use local native plant communities as cues for plant selection	
☑ Select plants native to the area/region	Plant Selection & Placement
☑ Purchase locally grown native plants	Planting/not removing nonnative invasive species
☑ Replace portions of lawns with forage plants	Removing or applying herbicide to native forage plants
☑ Incorporate forage plants in lawns	Planting plants not locally grown or unsuitable to climate/region
☑ Plant forage plants in clusters to create better visual attractants	
☑ Plant next to/expand/restore/connect existing native plant community fragments	Pesticide Poisoning Prevention
☑ Connect/expand habitat corridors	Susing plants treated with systemic insecticides during nursery production
	☑ Using insecticides
Pesticide Poisoning Prevention	Applying fungicides/herbicides to lawn where nesting sites or forage plants occur
Purchase plants from retailers that do not use systemic insecticides during nursery production	Using herbicides on forage plants
☑ Use non-chemical methods to control pests	Using rodent poison
Restrict or eliminate pesticide use, especially when forage plants are flowering	Applying pesticides in windy conditions producing spray drift

Last edited November 9, 2022

