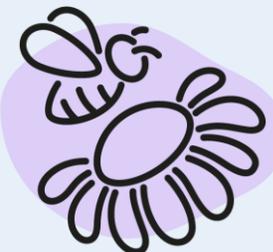
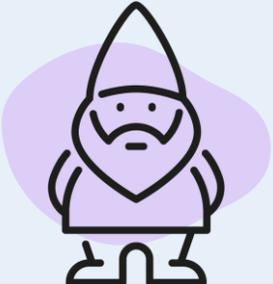


How to Help Native Bees

Even the smallest green space can provide food and safe haven for pollinators.

			
<p>1. Feed the Bees</p>	<p>2. Skip the Mulch</p>	<p>3. Leave Stems Behind</p>	<p>4. Say No to Pesticides</p>
<p>Plant local native plants as often as possible.</p> <p>Choose nectar- and pollen-rich flowers with a range of shapes, sizes, colors, and bloom times.</p> <p>Local natives have evolved regionally and are well adapted to the climate, soil, light, and water conditions in that area.</p>	<p>Many bees live underground and need bare, mulch-free, well-drained, protected soil in a sunny location.</p> <p>When mulching, leaves or compost are preferred.</p> <p>If using bark, or other bulky materials, keep mulch layers thin — no more than half an inch.</p>	<p>After blooms expire, leave the stems for cavity-nesting bees to move in and lay eggs.</p> <p>When you do cut stems, strategically trim them and leave the stems near the plant.</p> <p>Bonus, if you leave spent flowers up through the fall and winter, migrating birds can feed on seeds.</p>	<p>Pesticides are harmful to beneficial insects as well as pests! Only 3% of insects are harmful to humans.</p> <p>The best way to avoid pest issues is to have resilient plants - native plants. They attract beneficial insects whose job it is to eat insect pest.</p> <p>If you must use a pesticide, choose a targeted organic product.</p>

<https://thebeeconservancy.org/pollinator-bee-habitat/>
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