

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

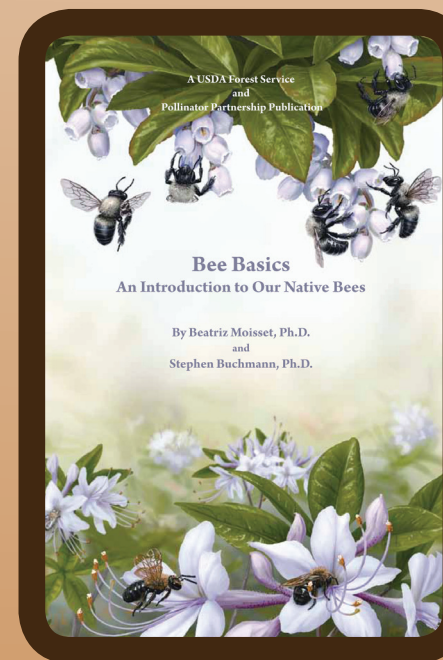
HARDWORKING NATIVE BEES ARE ALL AROUND US!

Most people don't realize it, but native bees are everywhere—in all shapes, sizes, and colors. Some hardly look like bees at all!

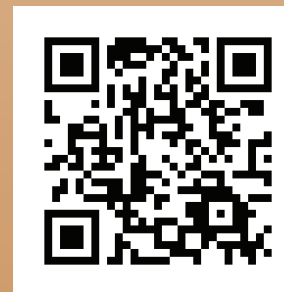
Native bees are important to people and wildlife. They help pollinate 80% of our flowering plants—trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and commercial crops.

Bee Informed

- Native bees don't make honey or live in large hives. They rarely act aggressive or sting, unlike honeybees, their European cousins.
- More than 4,400 native bee species live in North America alone.
- Bumble bees are abundant in chilly Wyoming because they can be active when temperatures are only slightly above freezing.
- Native bees are such fast, efficient pollinators that farmers buy them, raise them, and make homes for them near crops.



To download the free book *Bee Basics, An Introduction to Our Native Bees*, search online for "Bee Basics USFS," or scan this code with your smartphone. Ask at the front desk for other pollinator resources.



Western Bumble Bees. Courtesy USDA Forest Service.



Carpenter Bee. Courtesy Dorothy Tuthill, Berry Biodiversity Conservation Center.



Geum Bee. Courtesy Dorothy Tuthill, Berry Biodiversity Conservation Center.

Bee blocks provide homes for native bees. Courtesy Matthew Shepherd, The Xerces Society.

For more ideas about how to attract native bees and other pollinators, search online for The Xerces Society or scan this code with your smartphone.



Meet Your Local Bees

Can you find these native bees or other pollinators in the garden today?



Leafcutter bees cut circles out of leaves as nest-lining material. You might see one flying home with a leafy prize! Courtesy Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org.



Furry, slow-flying **western bumble bees** are prized by the tomato industry. This once-widespread species is in decline throughout its range. Courtesy Mace Vaughan, The Xerces Society.



The **green metallic bee** is also called the sweat bee—but you can think of it as a "don't sweat it" bee! If it lands on you, all it wants is a quick sip of your salty perspiration. Courtesy Mace Vaughan, The Xerces Society.