

Top 10 Things Everyone Can Do To Help Bees & Butterflies

Bees and butterflies play an essential part in pollinating food crops like fruits and vegetables. Eighty percent of insect pollinators are honey bees.¹ Populations of bees are being threatened by issues such as colony collapse disorder, pesticides, mites, disease and climate change. What can American gardeners do to help these wonderful creatures thrive?²



Water, weed and fertilize soil appropriately to create a healthy garden that minimizes pests and diseases.



1.

BEE friendly to bees! Honey bees are not aggressive; they sting only as a defense mechanism.

Use beautiful native plants such as Echinacea, Coreopsis, Sunflowers and Butterfly Milkweed for at least 75 percent of your garden.

6.



8.



Provide clean water for insects in shallow bowls, birdbaths and ponds, or let fresh water drip over stones.

5.



Cut and use garden flowers for bouquets to encourage re-blooming and prolong the foraging window for pollinators.

2.

Plant trees, shrubs and flowering plants to increase food and shelter for bees and butterflies.

9.



Imperfection is OK! Bees and butterflies may damage leaves and flowers while breeding and feeding. Create areas of natural habitat.



Choose perennials with simple, single rather than double flowers to make nectar and pollen more accessible to bees and butterflies.

4.

10.

Help convert small parcels of land into community gardens and green spaces to create closely linked areas for bees and butterflies to visit.

3.

Create a seasonal buffet for pollinators by planting perennial and annual flowers with a mix of colors, shapes and scents in containers, window boxes and plant beds.



For more information please visit www.burpee.com/pollinators

