#### Native Pollinators vs Honey Bees

While most people think of the honey bee when they think of a pollinator, the European honey bee is actually a non-native

species. There are 600 different native bee species in Washington alone.



Native bees will look for food when it is colder and darker than honey bees. Because of this, they forage for more hours in the day than honey bees.





Compared to honey bees, native bees tend to forage for more hours in the day, they have a short foraging range, and they pollinate more effectively than honey bees.





#### POLLINATOR FACTOID

LOOK FOR POLLINATION IN YOUR DAILY LIFE: If you cut an apple in half the "wrong" way (horizontally), you can see the star that the seeds make. There should be two seeds in each point, one stacked on top of another. If the apple wasn't fully pollinated, there may be missing seeds or the apple could be misshapen.

# WHAT CAN CLARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT DO FOR YOU?

We offer technical and financial assistance for:

- Wildlife Habitat Improvement
- Fish Barrier Removal
- Water Quality
- Educational Programs
- Agricultural Production

- Regulatory Compliance
- Erosion Control
- Forest Management
- Riparian Area Protection
- Conservation Planning
- Wetland Restoration

THE MISSION of Clark Conservation District is to protect, conserve, and improve the natural resources of Clark County.

Clark CD focuses on water quality, soil management, and critical habitat areas. We also assist landowners in the use and conservation of natural resources. Community members and landowners play a vital role in ensuring the overall success of our District. From planting trees to becoming involved in policy making, individuals can make a difference in their community.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
District Chair: Dean Longrie, Ph.D.
Vice-Chair: John Baugher
Auditor/Treasurer: Steven Keirn
Member: Doug Stienbarger
Member: Lynn Engdahl, Ph.D.

Associate Supervisors Dr. Milada Allen George Brereton Tanna Engdahl Rudy Salakory



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# Farming For Native Pollinators





Native pollinators are extremely important to the health of our gardens, farms, and dinner plates.

Learn how to create habitat and food for them in this pamphlet.





Phone: (360) 859-4780 Email: staff@clarkcd.org Website: www.clarkcd.org



### HELP POLLINATORS ON YOUR PROPERTY BY DOING A FEW LITTLE THINGS





Snags

Keeping dead trees standing provides shelter for native bees. Some solitary bees build nests in abandoned beetle tunnels in snags.



#### RIPARIAN BUFFERS

Habitat along streams should contain a diversity of plants. Willows, in particular, will nourish bumble bee queens in the spring so that large numbers of workers are available when crops begin to bloom.



#### **GARDENS**

A vegetable, flower, or herb garden, with a diverse assortment of plants, is a good source of food for pollinators. Be wary of fancy hybrids that may produce little pollen or nectar.



NATURAL OR UNDEVELOPED
AREAS

Nearby natural areas may harbor all the native bees needed to pollinate your farm's crops. Consider inviting your neighbors to help with safeguarding these habitats.



#### HEDGEROWS OR WINDBREAKS

Creating hedgerow with a wide variety of plants that have overlapping flowering periods will provide bee habitat throughout the growing season and strengthen populations of natural



#### FALLOW FIELDS

Even small areas of fallow or unproductive land, especially when sown with native flowers, can offer important resources for native bees.



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TEMPORARY BEE PASTURE

Planting fields with canola or other inexpensive seed—or allowing crops such as lettuce, kale, basil, and broccoli to bolt—will supply bees with nectar and pollen.





#### PESTICIDES

Insecticides kill pollinators outright, and herbicides may destroy plants important for both food and shelter. It is preferable to minimize your use of pesticides and to carefully choose products and application methods.



#### Ponds and Ditches

When you create a pond or ditch, leave the pile of excavated soil. Ground-nesting bees may build nests in stable, bare areas of this mounded earth. Planting clumps of native flowers will attract more pollinators.



#### FIELD AND ROAD BORDERS

Leave areas next to fields untilled and unsprayed to support flowering plants and provide nest sites for ground-nesting bees.



#### COVER CROPS

Flowering plants—certain legumes in particular—can be included in cover crop mixes to supply pollen and nectar.



#### ARTIFICIAL NESTS

Making bee blocks or houses for woodnesting bees is a good way to increase the number of native bees in your landscape.