GARDENING FOR HONEYBEES

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All photos by H. Scoggins unless otherwise noted

BEES NEED:

Nectar = carbohydrates for immediate consumption; dehydration and storage for winter sustenance
Pollen = proteins and fats; combined with nectar and secretions from nurse bees [bee bread]; fed to larvae and queen

IGNORE THE BEES? HOPE YOU LIKE LETTUCE AND ORANGES!!

BEE-FRIENDLY GARDEN STRATEGIES

- Diverse flower types and species Wide range of bloom time
  - “shoulder seasons” especially important – early spring and late fall
  - weather has to cooperate
- Minimal use of pesticides
- Diverse habitat (not all lawn + mulch)
- “We are all beekeepers!”
HONEYBEES ARE NOT NATIVE AND HOSTAS ARE NOT INVASIVE

1622
First colonies of Apis mellifera imported to E. North America

4000
Species of bees native to North America, not to mention other pollinators

GARDENING FOR BEES: PERFECT DOES NOT EQUAL BETTER

- Clover in your lawn
- Tolerate some early weeds, maybe?
- Lepidium sativum (Garden Cress)

SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS

Lamium amplexicaulis
Henbit

Lamium purpureum
Purple [Red] Deadnettle

PRUNUS SPECIES
CHERRIES, PLUM, PEACHES, ALMOND

Kwanzan
Yoshino
QUINCE – CHAENOMELES HYBRIDS (VERY NICE SHRUBS)

REDBUD – CERCIS CANADENSIS

HELLEBORES
- Helleborus foetidus
  Bearsfoot or Stinking Hellebore

HELLEBORES
- Helleborus x hybridus
  Lenten Rose

SALVIA NEMOROSA
GARDEN SAGE

NEPETA X FAASENII
CATMINT
(ALSO CALAMINTHA)
PEROVSKIA ATRIPLICIFOLIA
RUSSIAN SAGE

PYCNANTHEMUM MUTICUM
MOUNTAIN MINT

CARYOPTERIS X CLANDONENSIS
BLUE MIST SHRUB

MANY ASTERACEAE
Silphium perfoliatum

HELIANTHUS DIVERICATUS

TITHONIA
**GOLDENROD**
Solidago rugosa ‘Fireworks’

**FEAST!**
Eupatorium purpureum
Heliopsis helianthoides
Rubeckia triloba

**ASTERS!!!**
Symphyotrichum oblongifolium
Aromatic Aster

**ASTERS!!!**
Symphyotrichum novae-anglia
New England Aster

**ASTERS!!!**
ASTER TARTARICUS
Tartarian Aster

**BEEOURCES, ER, RESOURCES**