

Common Bees of New England

Bumble bees
(*Bombus* spp.)



Honey bees
(*Apis mellifera*)



Metallic sweat bees
(*Agapostemon* spp.)



Long-horned bees
(*Melissodes* spp.)



Mason bees
(*Osmia* spp.)



Leaf-cutter bees
(*Megachile* spp.)



Cuckoo bees
(*Nomada* spp.)



Cellophane bees
(*Colletes* spp.)



Eastern carpenter bees
(*Xylocopa virginica*)



N = native, E = exotic, NE = both native and exotic species of this group live in New England
G = nests below ground, S = nests in cavities above ground, C = lays eggs in nests of other bees, H = uses man-made hives, B = uses bee hotels

Did you know?

1. >350 species of bees live in New England
2. Most bees are solitary: they don't have a colony or make honey
3. Male bees cannot sting, and most native bees are not aggressive
4. Specialist bees collect pollen from only a few species of plants

How to help bees:

- Grow native plants
- Leave some ground unmulched
- Don't apply pesticides
- Don't mow as often



Tufts
Pollinator Initiative