

Pollinator Hotel

What is a Pollinator Hotel?

A pollinator hotel (insect hotel) is a nesting place for solitary bees and other beneficial insects.

Pollinator hotels have long been used to increase pollinator abundance. They are designed to offer a safe place for insects to lay their eggs and let their offspring overwinter.

Different types of pollinators, such as bees, have different lifestyles. Bumblebees are social and live in nests of up to several hundred bees. Most other species of wild bees are solitary and make their nests in hollow plant stems, old beetle tunnels in dead trees, or in holes in the ground.

You Can Help Pollinators Overwinter

Provide these materials in your yard to help different pollinators.

Mason bees: Wood with different sized holes drilled in it, a dead tree with beetle tunnels, or pre-made mason bee houses.

Mining bees: Bare, compact, undisturbed, well-draining soil.

Bumblebees: Pre-made bumblebee houses, old bird houses on the ground, clumps of living grasses or ferns.

Stem-nesting bees: Bundles of hollow plant stems hung in a dry place, living hollow-stemmed grasses and plants, leave dead stalks undisturbed over winter.

