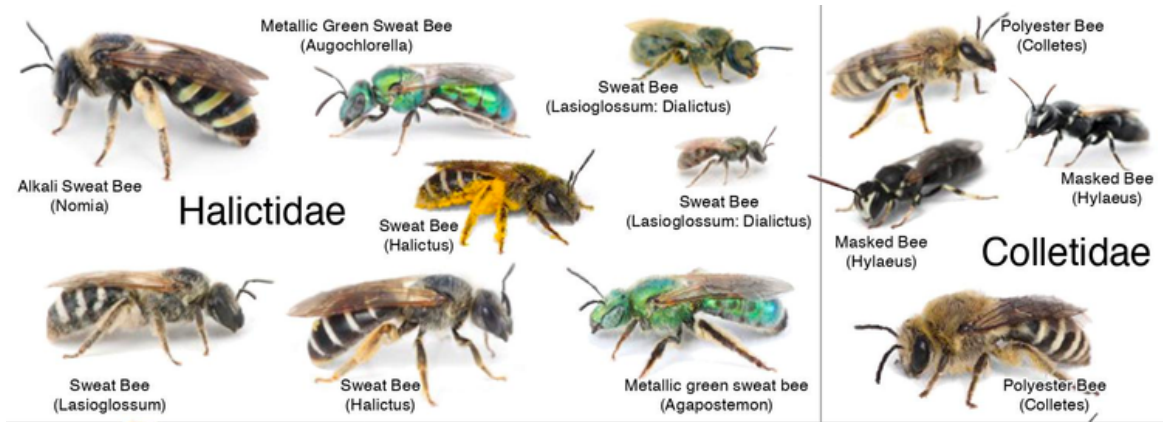




INFOGRAPHICS



*All bees reproduced at 2X their actual size



INFOGRAPHICS

Did you know...

There are nearly **4,000 bee species** in North America; 75% of these live in the West.

Some bees are thieves. Cuckoo bees lay an egg in the nest of other bees. The larva hatches, kills the host bee larva, then eats the pollen left in the nest.

Many native bees are excellent pollinators. In some orchards, **2 mason bees can do as much pollination work as about 100 European honey bees.**

Instead of carrying pollen on their legs or abdomen like other bees, **female masked bees carry the pollen back in their crop** (kind of like a stomach) and barf it up in their nest.

Bees come in a variety of sizes. Fairy bees can be as small as George Washington's nose on a Quarter while some bumble and carpenter bees are so big their head and abdomen would hang over the edge.

Mining bees are some of the first bees to come out in the spring. All mining bees and their relatives nest alone in the ground.

Honey bees are not native to North America. They were brought here from Europe by pilgrims and are the only bee in North America to make harvestable honey.

Many **bees are picky eaters** and will only visit certain kinds of plants. For example, squash bees will only visit squash flowers while some long-horned bees prefer sunflowers.



Mason Bees (Osmia)



(Actual sizes)



Squash Bee (Peponapis)



You can help native bees!




The best thing you can do to help bees in your yard is to plant native flowers and leave spots of bare dirt for them to nest in.

See bees like you've never seen them before. Nature's new film **My Garden of a Thousand Bees** is now streaming on PBS.
MyGardenofaThousandBees.com



Want to know more about bee identification?

Visit BeesinYourBackyard.com or find us on social media at:

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