

What can YOU do on World Bee Day to help save the Bees?

MAY 20



1

Check out the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan to see how you can help

See www.pollinators.ie to learn about all the different ways you can help bees.



Share our guidelines for Farmland, Businesses, Gardens, Schools, or Local Communities. Share our videos on your social media.

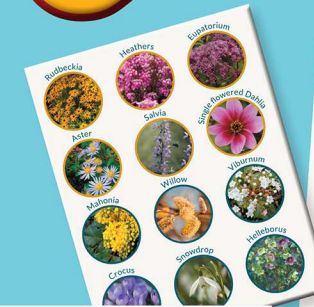


One-third of Ireland's 99 bee species are at risk of extinction. By making small changes to how we manage our land, we can all help to reverse these declines.

3

Plant bee-friendly flowers, fruits, herbs or trees

Try to include plants that will flower at different times of the year, so that you provide food sources for bees from spring right through to autumn. You will find pollinator-friendly plant lists at www.pollinators.ie



Fruit, vegetables & herbs e.g. Apples, Plums, Raspberries, Currants, Peas, Beans, Courgettes, Tomatoes, Chives, Rosemary, Thyme.

2

Look around your garden and pick some areas you will now leave for native plants and pollinating insects

Create a 'wildlife lawn' or a strip in your garden where the wildflowers will feed the bees.



If you have a native hedgerow, could you let it bloom? (by cutting no more than every 2-3 years)

5

Do an insect count

- Choose a sunny time of day between May 20th and 27th.
- Watch a 50cm x 50cm bee-friendly patch in your garden, park, school or farm for 10 minutes and count the number of insects that visit the flowers during that time. Hawthorn, Clover, Dandelions or Lavender would be good plants to watch.
- Visit www.pollinators.ie for more details and to download the survey form.
- Submit your results to the National Biodiversity Data Centre.



4

Make nesting sites for Solitary Bees

62 of our Solitary bees are Mining Bees, and need bare soil to nest. Protect these spots in your garden or create this by removing vegetation with a spade on south/east facing banks where possible.



Did you know that we have just one Honeybee but 21 bumblebee species in Ireland?

15 of our Solitary bees are Cavity-nesting Bees, and use existing holes in wood or stone to nest. Create this by drilling holes in fencing, erecting small bee hotels or using 'bee bricks'.



Or perhaps you could stop mowing your road verge. A roadside verge is often a refuge for our wild plants. If used by walkers, mow just a one-metre path along roadside.

www.pollinators.ie

Concept by Juanita Browne

