

## BEE FRIENDLY



Honeybees and other pollinators are under siege from numerous threats.

While we can't help with the first 2 issues at this point, we can do something about  $\#4\ \&$  #5.

Plant a "Bee Friendly" garden with *pollinator host plants* throughout, and when possible, reduce your turf grass which can be a wasteland for pollinators.

## Need help choosing the right Pollinator Host Plant?

Please ask us for suggestions, visit our website's "Plant Finder" page, or peruse the lists of bird and insect pollinator host plants in the Blooming Advantage Design Guide, Starting on page 48.

While we don't fully understand what causes Colony Collapse Disorder, it's decimating honeybee populations. A class of chemical pesticides known as "Neonicotinoids" have come under scrutiny as potentially contributing to Colony Collapse Disorder. Neonicotinoids are systemic chemicals, meaning the plant takes them into its vascular system and spreads it to all tissues. Studies have found trace amounts of Neonicotinoids in pollen grains. These pesticides have been shown to weaken bees' immune systems making them more susceptible to other risks such as #1, #2, & #3 above. Evidence shows these chemicals can also interfere with bees' foraging behavior, communication and larval development.

Blooming Advantage plants have not been exposed to Neonicotinoids. Neonicotinoid free since 2015!

Key factors believed to be responsible for the decline in Honeybee colonies

- 1. Mites & other parasites
- 2. Diseases
- 3. Colony Collapse Disorder
- 4. Poor nutrition due to habitat loss
- 5. Pesticides
- 6. Other factors not yet identified



For the latest information on Honeybees, CCD and other pollinators, please visit <a href="https://beeinformed.org">https://beeinformed.org</a>