

GARDENING TIPS

In order to have a successful garden, the gardener must follow a few rules.

- Test your soil every 3 to 4 years
- Apply fertilizers
- Thinning out plants when small
- Use mulch to conserve moisture, control weeds and reduce root rot
- Avoid excessive walking and working in the garden when soil is wet
- Keep your garden free of weeds, insects, and diseases
- Wash and clean tools and sprayers after use
- Rotate specific crop family locations each year to avoid insect and disease buildup
- When possible, harvest vegetables during the cool hours of the day

TIPS TO AVOID

- Planting too closely, which prevents walking or working in the garden
- Placing fertilizer directly in contact with plant roots or seeds
- Watering frequently or excessively so that the soil is always wet and soggy
- Using chemicals not specifically recommended for garden crops
- Applying chemicals or pesticides in a haphazard manner, without reading label directions or proper mixing

Ward I Joannie Holland

Ward II Betsy Evans

Ward III Helen Watson

Ward IV Stacie Freitas

Mayor's Appointee Carol Goodwin

Staff Liaison Cynthia Harwell

KEEP DEL CITY BEAUTIFUL!!!

The mission of the Del City Beautification Committee is to enhance the overall visual appearance of our community and the quality of life in our town.

Visit us at:

<http://cityofdelcity.com/city-beautification>

Follow us on Facebook at:

Keep Del City Beautiful



SEED SHARE PROGRAM

Sponsored by the Del City Beautification Committee



Activities:

Annual Seed Toss-Del City Armed Forces Day Parade

City Wide Eagle Pride Lawn Contest

Holiday Decorating Contest

Adopt a Flowerbed

Seed Share Program



We Need the Bees

PEOPLE NEED BEES.
AND NOW BEES NEED PEOPLE

Where there are bees, there is food

Pollinators are necessary for about 80% of all crops that are used directly for food worldwide. But the last decade has been hard on them, reducing their numbers year after year.

Why are bees so important?

The bees' future is our future

Bee colony collapse disorder has contributed to a loss of about 30% of pollinators each year for the last ten years.

We believe this serious issue affects everyone. After all, farmers can't grow the crops we need if we don't protect the bees that pollinate them.

Bees contribute more than \$14 billion to the value of U.S. crop production

42% of bee colonies in the U.S. collapsed in 2015
70 out of the top 100 human food crops are pollinated by bees



How can you help the bees?

And you can help them, too! Bees and other pollinators need wildflower pollen and nectar to stay happy and healthy. Planting wildflowers native to your own region may be a fun, simple way to help bees, but it's also recommended by conservationists as the best way to support pollinators.



BEE-KILLING PESTICIDES

Bee-killing pesticides in particular pose the most direct risk to pollinators. The main reasons for global bee-decline are linked to industrial agriculture, parasites/pathogens and climate change. The loss of biodiversity due to monocultures and the wide-spread use of bee-killing pesticides are particular threats for honeybees and wild pollinators.

Bee-Killing Pesticides

Situation

Since the late 1990s, beekeepers around the world have observed the mysterious and sudden disappearance of bees, and report unusually high rates of decline in honeybee colonies.

Causes

Bee-killing pesticides in particular pose the most direct risk to pollinators. The main reasons for global bee-decline are linked to industrial agriculture, parasites/pathogens and climate change. The loss of biodiversity due to monocultures and the wide-spread use of bee-killing pesticides are particular threats for honeybees and wild pollinators.

Solutions

To protect our bees and agriculture we need to shift from destructive industrial agriculture towards ecological farming. First and important steps are: 1. Ban all bee-harming pesticides 2. Adopt a bee-action plan 3. Promote ecological farming

Psssst.....

Before you spray or squishes, an insect,
remember.....
999 out of every 1000 insects, is actually
beneficial or harmless!!!

The role of the bee

Bees and other pollinating insects play an essential role in ecosystems. A third of all our food depends on their pollination. A world without pollinators would be devastating for food production.



Who would pollinate all the crops?

Hand-pollination is extremely labor-intensive, slow and expensive. The economic value of bees' pollination work has been estimated around 265 billion annually, worldwide. So, also from a purely economic point of view, it pays to protect the bees.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Any progress in transforming the current destructive chemical-intensive agricultural system into an ecological farming system will have many associated benefits on other dimensions of the environment and on human food security.

Support the change towards ecological farming and help to protect bees, wild bees and other pollinators: buy regional and organic food, avoid pesticides in your garden, plant bee-friendly organic flowers and get active by signing the petition to save the bees and agriculture.

