

What's the Buzz?

with DeeZ L'Town Beez

Hello friends and fellow keepers!



Maryland's Native Flowers: A Garden Full of Life



Maryland is home to a wonderful variety of native flowers that provide essential nectar and pollen for our local bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and other beneficial insects.

You don't need a large garden to make a difference. Even a few native plants can provide valuable food and habitat for pollinators throughout the seasons. Choosing plants that bloom at different times also helps ensure that bees have resources from spring through fall.

Supporting our bees goes beyond caring for the hive, it starts with caring for the landscape around them.

Below, Diane shares some of Maryland's native flowers and the pollinators they support. Every flower counts!

Top Maryland Native Pollinator Flowers

Common Name	Scientific Name	Bloom Time	Primary Pollinators	Sun & Soil Needs
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	June – August	Monarchs, bees, butterflies	Full sun, dry to medium soil
Purple Coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	June – August	Bees, butterflies, goldfinches	Full sun to part shade, adaptable
Wild Bergamot (Bee Balm)	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	July – September	Hummingbirds, bumblebees, butterflies	Full sun to part shade, moist soil
New York Ironweed	<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	August – October	Late-season butterflies and native bees	Full sun, moist soil
Black-Eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	June – September	Native bees, beneficial flies, seed-eating birds	Full sun, well-drained soil
Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	July – September	Monarchs, bumblebees, beneficial wasps	Full sun, moist to medium soil
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago</i> species	July – October	Specialized native bees, migratory butterflies	Full sun, adaptable
New England Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>	September – October	Critical fall food source for bees and monarchs	Full sun to part shade, moist soil



Recommended Resources

For more planting guides tailored to the region, check out the [University of Maryland Extension Native Plants](#) or explore local recommendations from [Lauren's Garden Service](#). At this time of year in Maryland, beekeepers are focused on preparing their colonies for winter while securing the final late-summer honey harvest.



STUFF YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO KNOW



Calvert County Fair

September 30-October 4th



Scaling Back for Winter Class

Deez Apirary, Leonardtown
October 3rd, 3 - 5pm



Evening with the Clydesdales

Suttler Post Farm

October 8th, 4 - 8pm



ASMB Fall Festival

Prince Frederick Vol Fire House
October 18th, 4 - 8pm



The Keeper's September Checklist

Varroa Mites: Test now and treat if needed. The bees being raised now are your winter bees, and protecting them from mites and viruses is critical to winter survival.

Food Reserves: A Maryland colony may need 60–80 lbs. of honey for winter. If stores are light, begin feeding 2:1 sugar syrup while temperatures still allow the bees to process it.

Weak Colonies: Fall is the time to evaluate colony strength. Consider combining a weak colony with a strong one rather than trying to carry a failing colony through winter.

Entrance Protection: Install entrance reducers and mouse guards now. They help protect colonies from mice, robbing, and other fall pests as temperatures drop.

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Happy Keeping!