Mason Bees

Pollination is an essential part of every garden! But how do you guarantee that your garden is getting pollinated? Introducing Mason Bees to your yard! From fruit trees to flowers and vegetables, these little workers will guarantee you get the best from your garden!

What are Mason Bees? Known for being great pollinators, mason bees look very similar to common house flies — with black bodies and a dark blue iridescent sheen. Unlike garden-variety honeybees, mason bees are non-social creatures that nest in holes rather than in a hive with a queen. Orchard bees work alone, but like to nest in groups when possible — there is no cooperation concerning the nest's construction or the rearing of the brood, and therefore, no aggression issues!

Do they sting? Male mason bees don't have stingers, and — since they have no queen to protect and all of the females are fertile — they're not aggressive. It's still possible to get stung, though the sting is more akin to a mosquito bite than your average bee sting.

Why are bees important? Bees are responsible for pollinating about one-sixth of the flowering plant species worldwide and approximately 400 different agricultural types of plant. Although honey bees get a lot of credit for their pollination skills, mason bees pollinate a much wider variety of plants, and are also more prone to work in bad weather.

How many bees do I need? We recommend 10 bees per fruit tree, and a colony of 250-500 can pollinate an acre.

Thinking about trying Mason Bees? Here's what you will need!

- Mason Bees- They come in cocoons in their hibernation stage.
- Housing- Mason bees do need protection from the elements. We have a variety of houses to choose from, along with tube inserts, which the bees will nest in. Houses need to be placed out of direct sunlight and kept safe from wind and rain.
- Mud- Since female mason bees need mud for their eggs, it's important to have open ground (without grass or bark covering) nearby.
- Things to pollinate- It is important to have many plants for the bees to pollinate so they can support themselves.

Please feel free to call us with any questions you may have! (360)457-8462