Save the bees: plant flowers and trees!

Pollinators require nectar and pollen plants.

Trees, shrubs, and flowers that bloom from April to September create a consistent food supply for pollinators to complete their life cycles. Ground covers (Ajuga, squill, crocus, clover, Creeping Charlie) are also favorable.

In spring, overwintering female bees emerge from sandy soil to forage and do not return to the overwintering sites. Do not kill these bees; doing so prevents future generations. In fall, large females appear again. Bees are unlikely to sting, simply avoid making sudden movements that may startle them.

Wasp, such as yellowjackets, paper wasps, and hornets, are sometimes mistaken for bees. Yellowjackets are seen at picnics in late summer when their nests are empty. Wasps are beneficial predators and should be left alone if possible. Insecticides can harm pollinators.

For more information visit www.entomology.umn.edu/cues