

Native Plants For Honey Bees



Beekeeping has become a popular volunteer activity on Spring Island with hives managed all over the island. Volunteers currently maintain about 10 hives on Spring Island which is approximately 500,000 bees. Spring Island bees produce about 500 pounds of honey and half of that is harvested each year leaving the remainder for the bees. Anyone wishing to observe or join the Spring Island Bee Keepers Group can call Troy Shaver at 987-5814. Honey is sold at the Members Market each Fall with proceeds donated to the Spring Island Trust.



Bees make 300,000 + visits to flowers to produce one pound of honey. To promote this production and enhance your landscape you may want to consider adding native plants to your landscape that will provide pollen that is attractive to Honey Bees. By using native plant species you will likely also benefit other wildlife and maintain the character of Spring Island. You might also consider these plants when you are pruning or maintaining your natural landscape areas so that you can protect these species for use by the Honey Bees.



Refer to the list of native plants below. These plants are known to provide pollen used by honeybees. They are also aesthetically appealing for use in the home landscape and are frequently available in the nursery trade.



Vaccinium arboretum - Sparkleberry



Serenoa repens – Saw Palm



Cephalanthus occidentalis - Buttonbush



Gaillardia pulchella – Indian Blanket

PLANT LIST:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Aralia spinosa | Hercules Club |
| Gaillardia pulchella | Indian Blanket |
| Monarda punctata | Horsemint |
| Serenoa repens | Saw Palmetto |
| Aster sp. | Aster |
| Vaccinium sp. | Sparkleberry |
| Tilia americana. | Basswood |
| Cercis canadensis | Redbud |
| Cephalanthus occidentalis | Buttonbush |
| Clethra alnifolia | Sweet Pepperbush |
| Ilex glabra | Inkberry |
| Ilex opaca | American Holly |
| Rhus copallina | Winged Sumac |
| Helianthus sp. | Sunflower |
| Trifolium sp. | Clover |
| Liriodendron tulipifera | Tulip Poplar |
| Nyssa sylvatica | Black Gum |
| Salix nigra | Black Willow |



Helianthus atrorubens -