



Backyard and Beyond

Build a Bee Bath

Bees and other pollinators help flowers by mixing their pollen for them, but pollinating plants is thirsty work! Bees and other pollinators need to drink water, just like other animals. They need to cool off, but not go for a swim. Make a simple bee bath to provide your local pollinators with a safe place to grab a quick drink.

What you need:

- Small to medium reusable container, like an old Tupperware container
- Rocks, small twigs, bark—sized to fit in your container
- Water



What you do:

1. Gather your materials.
2. Arrange your rocks, twigs, or bark in your container. Pile them up so pollinators that visit your bee bath have a place to land.
3. Add water to your container. You want enough water for pollinators to reach it, but not so much that it completely covers the landing spots. Pollinators want to drink the water and cool off, but not go for a swim.
4. Find a good spot to place your bee bath—somewhere it won't fall over and around flowering plants.
5. Let your bee bath get a little yucky! Bees prefer "dirty" water because it contains important minerals like calcium, potassium, and magnesium that help them stay healthy.



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