

Who Are The Pollinators?

Animals that transport pollen from one flower to another are called pollinators. Without animal pollinators, many plants cannot produce seeds.

Major pollinators- Bees

Bees pollinate most of our native plants and agricultural crops. Pollen readily collects on their hairy bodies and some bees store pollen in tiny sacks on their hind legs. On a single foraging trip, a female bee visits 100s of the flowers of the same species, collecting huge quantities of pollen in the process. There are 4,000 native bees in the United States; the honey bee is nonnative.

Honey Bee



Sweat Bee



Rusty Patched Bumble Bee



Bumble Bee



Mining Bee



Carpenter Bee



Minor Pollinators

Other pollinators, such as butterflies, primarily visit flowers to feed on nectar and pick up small quantities of pollen.

Flower Flies



Butterflies and Moths



Beetles



Hummingbirds



Pollinators are declining due to:

- *Pesticide use*
- *Loss of native plants*
- *Invasive species*
- *Habitat destruction*
- *Climate change*