
Gardening for Bees in Hampton Roads

*The following are categories of plants known to thrive in the southeastern/Hampton Roads area of Virginia that also support bees. *Plants identified as major honey plants for bees*

Trees That Thrive In Hampton Roads

Alder, American beech, American holly, basswood*, birch, black/honey locust*, crape myrtle, eastern redbud, flowering cherry, flowering crabapple, Franklin, hazels, Japanese pagoda, Japanese snowbell, Japanese stewartia, red horse chestnut, sour gum, sourwood, tulip (poplar) tree and white fringe

Woody Plants That Thrive In Hampton Roads

Roses, bluebeard, butterfly bush, daphne, azalea, fothergilla, flowering quince, glossy abelia, Japanese kerria, lilac, mock orange, leatherleaf mahonia, Oregon grape holly, privet, rose-of-Sharon, summersweet, viburnums (many varieties), weigela and witch hazel

Perennials That Thrive In Hampton Roads

Ajuga, alfalfa*, anise hyssop, aster*, bachelor's button, balloon flower, black-eyed Susan, blue false indigo, blue salvia, candytuft, chrysanthemum, columbine, coneflower, foxglove, geranium, goldenrod*, globe thistle, Japanese spurge, lamb's ears, lenten rose, marsh rose mallow, monarda, oriental poppy, phlox, purple coneflower, red hot poker plant, Russian sage, scabiosa, sedum and Siberian iris

Annuals That Thrive In Hampton Roads

Ageratum, celosia, clover* (white & sweet), coleus, common garden verbena, cosmos, edging lobelia, lantana, marigold, pansy, petunia, snapdragon, spider flower, sunflower, sweet alyssum and zinnia

Bulbs/Corms/Tubers That Thrive In Hampton Roads

Allium, crocosmia, daffodil, dahlia, hyacinth and tulip

Herbs That Thrive In Hampton Roads

Anise, basil, catnip, chives, lavender, mint, rosemary, thyme, oregano, sage and savory (summer & winter)

Vines That Thrive In Hampton Roads

Carolina jessamine, clematis, climbing hydrangea, goldflame honeysuckle and Japanese wisteria

Plants With Fragrance Reputed to Offend Bees

Onion, leek and garlic

Plants Deemed Undesirable or Poisonous to Bees

Andromedes, mountain laurel, flowering tobacco, snow-on-the-mountain, pieris, rhododendron, wild aster and boxwood

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