Pollination is necessary before many plants can produce their fruits, vegetables, nuts and seeds.

75% of our major food crops benefit from pollinators.

Honey bees are responsible for 80 percent of insect pollination value.

Apples, blueberries, pumpkins and watermelons are just a few of the more than 100 crops pollinated by honey bees.

Our agricultural system today is more dependent than ever on honey bees for pollination and to increase the quality and yield of crops, as well as the beekeepers that migrate from crop to crop to provide their pollination services to farmers.

Learn about honey bee pollinators through the Center for Pollinator Research. Visit their website: http://ento.psu.edu/pollinators which offers news, research, events, publications, and opportunities to take courses on pollination.

Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association

Established in 1904

Represents 31 local beekeeping associations

Partners with the

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

PennState Extension

Provides Research, Public outreach and education, Bee law regulation, and best management recommendations

www.pastatebeekeepers.org

Helping Honey Bees
Honey Bees are in trouble.

Researchers are working hard to understand the declining bee population. Some of the reasons why honey bees and other pollinators are disappearing:

- **POOR NUTRITION** - Reduced forage (nectar and pollen sources)
- **PESTICIDES** - overuse and misuse
- **PESTS** - parasitic mites and small hive beetles
- **PATHOGENS** - diseases and viruses

Ways to Help

- Learn more about where your food comes from and the important role pollinators play.
- **Buy LOCAL honey.**
  - [www.localharvest.org/farmers-markets](http://www.localharvest.org/farmers-markets)
- Get to know your LOCAL beekeepers.
  - Consider becoming a beekeeper! Join a local association and the PA State Beekeepers Association. [www.pastatebeekeepers.org](http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org)
- Learn about the **PA Pollinator Protection Plan**
  - The “P4” was developed by 28 states and national stakeholder groups. P4 provides resources and recommendations for best practices to support and expand pollinator population. [http://ento.psu.edu/p4](http://ento.psu.edu/p4)
- Plant a pollinator friendly garden. Learn how by downloading a planting guide.
  - [www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org)
  - [www.beefriendlypa.org](http://www.beefriendlypa.org)

Join Us

In the state of Pennsylvania, **5,600 beekeepers** manage approximately **51,750 honey bee colonies** with **7,200 bee yards**.

Over 93% of the all PA beekeepers are small and independent with 25 or fewer hives.

Hives Managed

- 1-25 Small scale
- 26-249 Sideliner
- 250+ Commercial

Register Your Hives

[https://www.paplants.state.pa.us/SecurityLogin.aspx](https://www.paplants.state.pa.us/SecurityLogin.aspx)

PA Model Beekeeping Ordinance

Learn about the model ordinance for beekeeping. It provides a framework for understanding the regulations in beekeeping. [pastatebeekeepers.org/legislate.htm](http://pastatebeekeepers.org/legislate.htm)

Register Your Hives

Visit [www.paplants.state.pa.us/SecurityLogin.aspx](https://www.paplants.state.pa.us/SecurityLogin.aspx)

Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association

Contact us at [secretary@pastatebeekeepers.org](mailto:secretary@pastatebeekeepers.org) or visit [www.pastatebeekeepers.org](http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org) for more information.

If you are a beekeeper or are just interested in the health and welfare of honey bees and our food supply, please consider joining our organization!