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TREES FOR LIFE

- JERSEY -

Trees for bees and other pollinators

This is a guide to our most popular common pollinating trees and shows when they will flower for our insects to harvest. This is not a definitive list.

Feb:	Common Alder Alnus glutinosa	Winter flowering Cherry Prunus x Subhirtella autumnalis	Wild Pear Pyrus communis	
March:	Common Hazel Corylus avellana	Cherry/Common Plum Prunus cerasifera/domestica	Blackthorn/Sloe Prunus spinosa	Common Pear Pyrus communis
	Willow (all species) Salix	Dogwood Cornus genus	English Oak Quercus robus	Aspen poplar Poplus tremula	Common Yew Taxus baccata
	Common Elder Sambucus elder			
April:	Field Maple Acer campestre	Bird/Wild Cherry Prunus Padus/avium	Crab Apple Malus sylvestris	Birch Betula pubescens
May:	Sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus	Horse Chestnut Aesculus hippocastanum	Hawthorn Crataegus monogyna	Common Holly Ilex aquifolium
	Medlar Fruit Mespilus germanica	Rowan (mountain ash) Sorbus aucuparia	Apple common Malus x domestica	Common Ash Fraxinus excelsoir
June:	Common Lime Tilia x europaea			
July:	Sweet Chestnut Castanea sativa	Large leaved Lime Tilia platyphyllos		
August:	Wild Privet Ligustrum vulgare	Buddleia Buddleja davidii	Tamarisk Ramosissima	Ivy (managed) Hedera helix

What you can do

Our trees help combat climate change by absorbing Co2 from the atmosphere and are fundamental to many ecosystems on earth, providing an important habitat and food source for wildlife. Like all plants they require pollination in order to make seeds and fruit. Many types of animals are part of the pollination process. Some of these include bats, birds and even land mammals, but the most common pollinators are insects. Insect pollination is crucial to most gardens and is as simple as insects like bees, butterflies and wasps flying from flower to flower in order to collect nectar. In the process, pollen collects on their bodies and rubs off on other flowers that they visit. This fertilizes the flower and the plant will then grow seeds and the fruit around the seeds.

We need bees and sometimes we take them and other pollinators like butterflies and hoverflies for granted - but they are vital for stable, healthy ecosystem and from that food supplies. They are key to the varied, colourful and nutritious diets we need and have come to expect.

But! Bees are in trouble! There is growing public and political concern at the bee decline across the world. This decline is caused by a combination of stresses - from loss of their habitat and food sources to exposure to pesticides through modern chemical based farming and the effects of climate change. More than ever before, we need to recognise and value the importance of bees to nature and to our lives. We need to turn our concern into action to ensure they don't just survive but thrive. By planting trees and shrubs which encourage our insects to visit them, we can make a difference, and it’s so easy to do!