

Frequently asked questions about the Bee Hotel Project:

How much does it cost?

The cost of the project depends on how elaborate of a bee hotel the teacher/class would like to create. It could be as simple as rubber banding several drinking straws together or an elaborate hotel. Most materials are inexpensive and can be found outside, such as twigs or small branches with holes in them. With this said, the school is responsible for the cost of the materials.

Who will pick it up?

UW-Extension staff and volunteers will pick up the bee hotels from each school that participates at the end of the school year and bring it back to school if you'd like to add it to your school yard. Teachers are not responsible for transporting them.

How many can each class build?

It will be up to you how many hotels you would like to build. It could be one that is a joint effort with several classes involved or one for each class. Whatever fits best with your curriculum and time. We just ask that they are not so big that they can't be moved! Creativity and innovation is encouraged!

Where will the bees come from?

The bees are outside and will find the hotel on their own! If you build it and they will come! Once spring arrives, it's encouraged that they are put outside.

How much time will it take?

The time commitment will depend on the teacher and how much they'd like to incorporate pollinators, bees, nature, etc. into their curriculum. A simple bee hotel could take 1-2 hours to build and one hour to gather some information from the children that we will be asking. One example of a question will be how many bees they think will live in the hotel? Example questions will be emailed to teachers in February. These questions and the answers will be posted with the bee hotel at Farm Tech Days and are designed to nurture curiosity.

When can I start?

If teachers are ready to go with this project, they can start at any point. If support is needed we can schedule that as needed.

Educational Resources?

[Creating a Solitary Bee Hotel – University of Nebraska](#)

[Nesting Sites for Native Bees](#) – Xerces Society

[Protectors of Urban Pollinators \(PUPs\) curriculum](#)

[Smithsonian Partners in Pollination Curriculum](#)

[Montana Pollinator Education Project](#) - Lesson plans for K-8

[Xerces Society Educator Resources](#)

[How do bees see?](#)

[Pollinator Tool Kit](#) – Ecological Society of America

Examples and pictures of bee hotels can be found with a quick internet search.