



BILLINGS FARM & MUSEUM

POLLINATOR CELEBRATION:

BF&M IS A BFF!

BFF stands for Bee Friendly Farm and here at Billings Farm & Museum we are a BFF! It's so important for us to be doing anything we can to support our native pollinators like bees.



The walking trail at Billings Farm with bee friendly habitat.

So, how can you become a bee friendly farm, or backyard? Make sure you have flowering plants throughout the growing season, offer clean water, provide habitat for native pollinators, and reduce or eliminate pesticide use.

At Billings Farm, at least 3% of our land can be used by pollinators for food and forage. That includes our gardens, hay fields, and natural areas by the Ottauquechee River. This land is used by us to grow food for the cows (hay) and food for us to use in our kitchens. Before we use it, the bees can gather pollen and nectar from those plants.

We provide numerous gardens for bees to browse. Our newest addition, the sunflower house, is a big draw for bees because sunflowers provide so much food! We also have a smaller plot called the Pollinator Garden where we've planted flowers that will bloom through the growing season. This makes sure the bees have food from early spring to late fall.



The Pollinator Garden

POLLINATOR CELEBRATION:

BF&M IS A BFF!

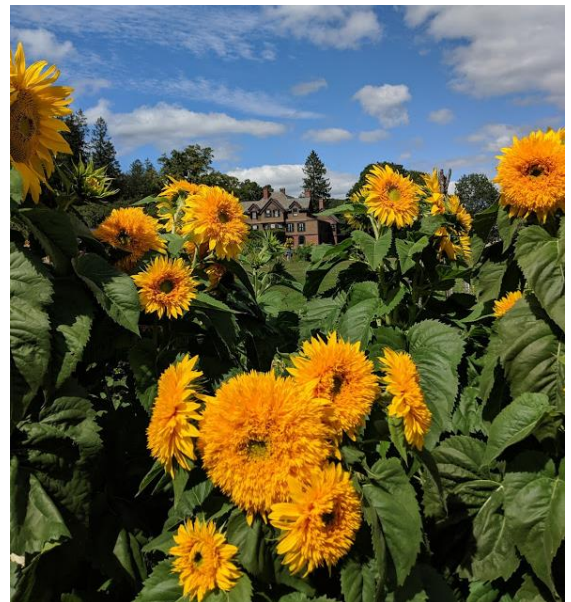


The bee hotel.

CHECK OUT THE BILLINGS FARM WEBSITE TO SEE A VIDEO ON HOW TO MAKE A BEE BATH AND DOWNLOAD THE KIT! IT'S AN EASY WAY TO HELP YOUR NATIVE POLLINATORS.

Our campers from Junior Farmer Camp made a bee hotel which is hanging on our garden shed. This is a small “house” with sticks and leaves in it. Solitary native bees like mason bees use these houses to nest and lay their eggs. It’s just another way we can help them out!

Billings Farm does not use pesticides on our crops. Pesticides are the leading killer of pollinators around the globe. We’ve eliminated chemicals to better support the natural ecosystems on and near our farm, you can do it too!



View from the sunflower house.

