

## What is a Honey Bee?

A honey bee is a pollinator insect that produces and stores honey from the nectar in flowers. They live in colonies, or groups, and work together to make their nests. Honey Bees are 15mm long, light brown and golden yellow.

A honey bee has the ability to sting with a stinger that contains venom. They use their stinger for ONLY defense and die once they have stung something.

Honey bees make their homes in holes of trees or rock crevices. In the winter, they stay in their hive and huddle for warmth.

## Bee City USA

The City of Salisbury is a proud member of Bee City, USA. We are working toward a sustainable, safe and healthy environment for our pollinators.

"90% of plants  
rely on  
pollinators for  
survival."

--Bee City USA



The City of Salisbury  
Honey Bees  
Bee City USA



Flicker,  
Hyper  
Strider 2017

## Queen

There is only one queen honey bee in each hive. She is the only female that lays eggs and lays about 2,000 every day.

## Worker

The worker honey bees are the female bees that feed honey to the baby bees (larvae). They leave the hive and move from flower to flower collecting nectar that the hive needs for survival. The worker bee is the busiest bee there is. They gather and store food nonstop until they die.

## Drone

Drone honey bees are important to the success of the colony. These bees are the male bees. Their job is to mate with the queen bee so the colony can continue to grow and become stronger. They do not leave the hive until they die.

For more information visit the Bee City USA website.

## Importance

What is all the BUZZ about? Honey bees play a key role in ecosystem health. As they travel from flower to flower collecting nectar, they simultaneously transfer pollen. This transfer fertilizes the plants! Every 1 in 3 bites of the food we eat are pollinated from bees. Without pollinator animals, most of the fruits and vegetables we eat would not exist!

Although there are many types of pollinators, honey bee health is vital to plants, animals and us. YOU can make a difference in your community by understanding the importance of Honey Bees.

BeeCityUSA.org  
Salisbury.md