



Bee the Change!

6 Things You Can Do to Protect Our Bees

1. Green Your Home or Business Landscaping

Practice sustainable gardening. Avoid toxic products and use safe alternatives. If you work with a gardener or landscaper, ask for a list of products currently used in your yard. Read the product labels and avoid any that are toxic to bees or other animals including humans. If you need guidance, check out the resources listed below. The **Green Gardeners** listed on the back can also be helpful.

Sustainable Landscaping

Soil Food Web: It all starts with the soil. Build a healthy functioning soil food web that will support a thriving garden or lawn and does not depend on chemical inputs. To learn more about the soil food web, see **rodaleinstitute.org** and attend a sustainable gardening workshop starting in June. See handout for details.

Consider hosting one in the comfort of your home and learn first hand how to have a beautiful garden without harming the environment. Bring your landscaper too!

Beneficial Insects: Ladybugs and green lacewings control aphids and other pests naturally. Provide habitat and they will come! **www.rinconvitova.com**

Safe Products: Examples include: non synthetic horticulture oils such as neem, sesame, fish for ornamental pests; diatomaceous earth, bait traps and tangle foot for ants; flamer, vinegar, clove and citrus oils for weeds; sluggo, diatomaceous earth and oyster shell for slugs/snails. **www.ourwaterourworld.org**

Products to Avoid:

- Neonicotinoids (imidacloprid, clothianidin, thiamethoxam, dinotefuran)
- Fipronil, cyhalothrin, bifenthrin, chlorpyrifos
- Fungicides and pyrethroid insecticides
- Other products toxic to bees and other animals including humans

2. Help Make Santa Barbara a “Honey Bee Haven”

If you’ve already gone sustainable, find out what you can do to make your property a honeybee haven. Go to **honeybeehaven.org** and take the pledge to help put Santa Barbara on the Honeybee Haven map, literally.



3. Bee In The Know

PANNA (Pesticide Action Network North America) is dedicated to replacing the use of hazardous pesticides with ecologically sound alternatives. **www.panna.org** covers everything from the science of pesticides and their effect on the health of pollinators and humans, to recent government legislation. PANNA also publishes a toolkit with specific action steps you and your community can take to help make change.

4. Host A Movie Screening at Your Home

Invite friends to your home to watch *More Than Honey*. The more people who understand the dangers our bees face (and therefore we face), the greater chance we have of creating change. After the movie, provide everyone with this handout.

5. Speak Up!

Write a letter or sign a petition to urge the EPA to ban neonicotinoids. Contact your local legislators. Submit a letter or Op Ed piece to the editor of a local paper. Tell your friends and family about the plight of the honeybees and how they can help. Refer to PANNA’s Toolkit for information to walk you through the process: **www.panna.org/bees**.

6. Eat Organic

Use your dollars to support local organic farmers who don’t use toxic pesticides. If they succeed, we all win.

“The weight of evidence demonstrates that pesticides are indeed key in explaining honey bee declines, both directly and in tandem with the other two leading factors, pathogens and poor nutrition.”

– Pesticides and Honey Bees: State of the Science, a PAN report, May 2012

Bee the Change!

Local Sustainable Landscaping Professionals:

Bill Palmisano

805 570-7965; palm1953@gmail.com

Brian Jarvis Landscapes

805 680-3556; Brianjarvislandscapes@gmail.com

Eco Lawn and Garden Care

Bill Munio, owner

www.ecolawnandgardensb.com/services/sustainability/
bill.munio@gmail.com; 805 765-2967

Frantz Landscape

David Frantz, owner

www.frantzlandscape.com; (o) 805-964-0832;
(c) 805 455-1954

Inside Out Landscape, Inc.

Don Campbell, owner

www.insideoutlandscapes.com; 805 684-1667
dc@insideoutlandscapes.com

Rincon Landscapes

Nicolas Lebrero, landscape contractor, and Alejandra Aleman, certified advanced green gardener.

Office phone 805 683-0884.

SB Organics

Loren Luyendyk, owner

www.sborganics.com/Contact.html
loren@sborganics.com; 805 452-8249

Wilson Environmental Landscape Design

Daniel Wilson, owner

www.weldesign.net; 805 957-4729

Green Gardener Program:

In addition, you can find individuals on the following website that have been trained and have successfully completed the Green Gardener Program:

www.waterwisesb.org/greengardener

FACT: U.S. beekeepers have reported annual hive losses of 29-36%. Commercial beekeepers tell us that their industry, which is the care and cultivation of an indicator species, is on the verge of collapse.

FACT: Montecito residents recently lost 18 bee hives. Penn State/USDA lab tests revealed a number of pesticides in samples of the wax, brood cells, and food stores taken from the failed hives.

Books:

The Gardener's Guide to Common-Sense Pest Control: Completely Revised and Updated

By William Olkowski, Helga Olkowski, Shelia Daar and Stephen Ash (Mar 5, 2013)

Living with Bugs: Least-toxic Solutions to Everyday Bug Problems

By Jack DeAngelis, Ohio State University, 2009, companion book to 'Bugs website, covering 50+ most common household pests with drawings and photographs to help with identification. www.livingwithbugs.com

Ask the Bugman! Environmentally Safe Ways to Control Household Pests

By entomologist and syndicated columnist Richard Fagerlund

Links/Resources:

Our Water - Our World

Website by Bay Area water agencies to assist consumers in managing home and garden pests without releasing hazardous materials. www.ourwaterourworld.org

SafeLawns.org

Resources for natural lawn care and landscaping from PAN ally Paul Tukey, with a blog about the latest developments and links to businesses providing organic solutions. www.safelawns.org

Santa Barbara Beekeepers Association

Local resource for information and education about bees and beekeeping, hive rescues/swarm removal, and more.

www.sbba.org



Bee Well & Bee Happy