

GET MILLBROOK BUZZING!

A HOME FOR POLLINATING BEES AND OTHER INSECTS

Pollinating insects are vital to the health of our countryside, wildlife and rural communities. Get Millbrook Buzzing aims to help our pollinators by planting orchard trees and wildflowers and explaining why pollinators are important. Millbrook Park is being managed to provide food, nesting and shelter for pollinators. The meadow will provide a burst of colour in the summer and more food and habitat for bees, hoverflies, waterflies and other wildlife. Many insects need different habitats at various times in their life-cycle so a mix of banks, hedgerows, field margins and ditches are essential, in addition to flower-rich grassland. Open ground in banks and alongside pathways are used by mining bees and wasps to burrow in and build their nests. Other species require tussocky grasses for winter shelter and their larvae develop in the seed heads of wild flowers.



Honey Bee
Varies in colour from all-black to orange-banded and look rather wasp-like. They have pollen baskets on the hind legs.



Solitary Bee
These include mining bees that nest in underground burrows and Mason and leaf cutter bees that nest in wood or walls.

Bumble Bee
Larger than the honeybees and other bees, always fuzzy, robust looking and fig with a deep buzz.



Beetle
There are thousands of species including ladybirds, soldier beetles, weevils and flower beetles. All have hard protective forewings (elytra) to protect the delicate hind wings.



Hoverfly
These brilliant mimics of bees and wasps cannot sting. They have large eyes, one pair of wings and shorter antennae than bees and wasps.

Wasp
Common wasps live together in a nest, but solitary wasps live alone. These vary from large, black and yellow striped species to tiny black or metallic red and green ones.