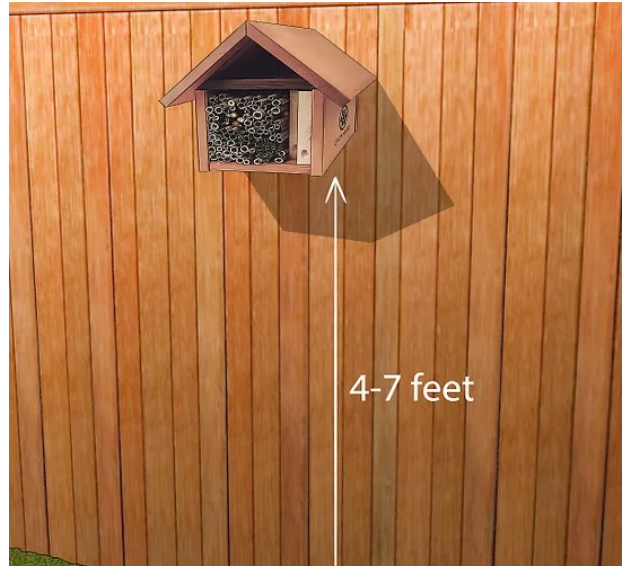
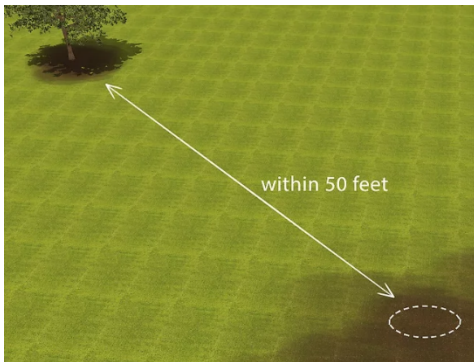


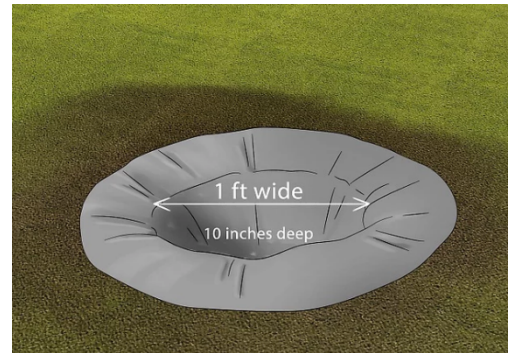
MASON BEES – A gentle pollinator



Mount Mason Bee house 4-7 ft off the ground. The back should be sheltered and enclosed.



Ensure there is a mud source (clay vs. sandy soil) approximately 50 feet away from nest site. Do not let this mud source dry out. Mud may be purchased from sources such as Crown Bee.



Mason bee season occurs once daytime temperatures are consistently about 55 degrees and end by early summer. At this time the nesting tubes have been capped with mud. Leafcutter bees routinely follow the season end of Mason Bees.

Mason bee reeds/tubes may be collected and stored in a protective, breathable bag with capped ends facing up stored in a warm location until fall. They could also be left in the bee house but are more susceptible to parasites and diseases.



In the fall, the reeds/tubes are split open, cocoons removed, washed (room temperature water with a drop of bleach for 50 seconds). Discarding and cocoons that do not float or c-shaped cocoons (indicator of chalkbrood).



Gently dry your cocoons and store them in a paper bag or breathable container in your refrigerator over the winter. Add a damp paper towel/sponge for moisture to ensure the cocoons do not dry out. The ideal temperature is 30-40 degrees with 60-70 humidity.

Once next Spring arrives and temperatures are consistently about 55 degrees, place your cocoons on or in front of your Mason Bee house. Place the Mason Bee house within 300 feet of your garden.

Initial Mason Bees can be purchased from many suppliers but ensure to purchase from a reputable source (preferably certified) as not to introduce disease into your new bee houses.

For more information, please contact us at:

Saybees.apary@gmail.com

717-968-9359

Or follow us on Facebook.

CONTACT FOR PRICING

Scan the QR code for additional Mason Bee/Leaf Cutter Bee information. Any purchases used with this code provide a donation to Keys To Bees Youth Pollinator Program.

