

CRAB APPLE

Malus species

Blue Orchard
Mason Bee
Osmia lignaria



The crab apple is the only native apple to the U.S.

It is the ancestor rootstock for over 7,000 varieties of domestic food apples grown in the U.S.

They are used for cross-pollinating commercial apple trees in orchards.

Apples' beautiful flowers and delicious fruit have made them a favorite in many diets of bees and people!



Partners:



**POLLINATOR
PARTNERSHIP**



Forest
Service

National
Headquarters

May
2016

BEES NEED TREES!

Trees Give Bees:

Pollen (protein) - to eat and to feed larva

Nectar (carbohydrate) - to eat for quick energy and to convert to honey

Resin - bees make into propolis to keep the hive clean and insulated

Habitat - hollow cavities to shelter bee hives

Bees Give Trees:

**Pollination! Bees fertilize flowers
so trees can make seeds that
grow into new trees**

Trees with light pollen (like pine, oak, & nuts) use the wind to share massive amounts of pollen with each other (and cause us to sneeze!)

Fruit trees have heavy pollen (that doesn't produce allergies) and need pollinators like bees to help their pollen move from tree to tree.

Without them,
what would we eat?

Some bee-pollinated fruit trees include:
oranges, almonds, apples, Brazil nut, papaya,
coconut, mango, avocado, crabapple, cherry,
lemon, and grapefruit