HONEY MESQUITE

Prosopis glandulosa

Leafcutter Bee
Megachile species

Honey Mesquite is one of the most common trees of the American Southwest. Its seedpods provide food for both wildlife and people, and it has significant uses in traditional medicine. It is a legume, which means it restores nitrogen to the soil to help make soils healthy for all plants.

It is pollinated by over 160 species of native bees.

Partners: Sweet Virginia, Pollinator Partnership
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