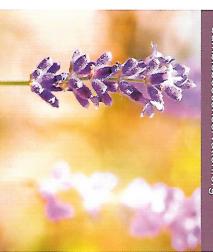
## What you can do to help

of bee-friendly flowers. By beesound of summer by providing lots contribute to our efforts to save the rich in pollen and nectar. what size your garden is, you can British gardens cover more than friendly we mean flowers that are lifeline for bumblebees. No matter million acres and can be a

are of no value to wildlife. Years of produce little pollen or nectar. cultivation for showy blooms mean such as pansies and begonias, Many ornamental plants that are

lavender, alliums, herbs and wild roses that you can add to your There are hundreds of beautiful

bumblebeeconservation.org kind gardening tool, visit including access to our Bee Conservation Trust. For more member of the Bumblebee fundraising and becoming a You can also help by supporting information on all of the above,



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magazine three times a year. Join information and our members a membership pack of bumblebee pollinators, become a member for sateguarding the future of these vital To support our conservation work just £20 per year. You will receive

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Educational factsheet (2)



a registered charity (England & Wales 1115634 / Scotland SC042830). Company Campbell Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire Business Centre, Eastleigh Works, Conservation Trust, Parkway House & Wales). Registered Office: Bumblebee registration number 05618710 (England The Bumblebee Conservation Trust is

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what you need to bumblebees and

### bumblebees All about







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Saving the sound of summer



among the most sound of them of garden insects buzzing from flower The sight and Bumblebees are loved and familian

themselves hungry and homeless changing climate, our bumblebees find gardens, intensive agriculture and a survive. In our modern world of paved charismatic creatures are struggling to British summertime, but sadly these to flower is a quintessential part of

of these, the Short-haired bumblebee species found in the UK, although one There are a total of 25 bumblebee is only resident thanks to efforts to reintroduce it.

the last 80 years, while other species to have become nationally extinct in bumblebee is one of two UK species Unfortunately, the Short-haired exposure to parasites and diseases, exposure, climate change, and with modern pressures like pesticide the pollen and nectar that they need have declined dramatically. The reason it is clear that our precious pollinators to survive. When you combine this the countryside to provide bees with there are now far fewer flowers in for this is simple and clearly visible:



you can help. today to help save these hardworking But all is not lost - you can take action bumblebees are important and how pollinators. This leaflet explains why

#### bumblebees? What's so special about

and lives of bumblebees, honeybees and solitary bees. Bumblebees are differences between the appearance To most people, bees are instantly up inside their hives. But, bumblebee days when honeybees stay tucked allows them to venture out on cold colder climates. Their extra insulation which makes them perfectly suited for larger and hairier than their cousins availability of pollen and nectar-rich means they are more sensitive to the store large quantities of honey which nests are small and they do not recognisable, but there are distinct flowers to feed on.

granted. They pollinate many crops Bumblebees play a vitally important ecosystems which depend on them that provide us with food to eat and role which we shouldn't take for could decline dramatically or even wildflowers and the animals and disappear altogether. the colourful flowers in our landscape Without their 'free-bee' service, many

# A sugar water mix..

and warm water then pour into a small container If you find a stranded or sleepy bumblebee you to recuperate. or sponge. Place both the bee and the artificial sugar-water mix. Mix equal parts white sugar can help to boost her energy levels with a simple nectar near to some flowers and allow some time

## Bumblebee lifecycle

Bumblebees are social insects and can live which remain active for several years. year. This is different to honeybee hives is ruled by a queen and lasts for just one in nests of up to 400 individuals. Each nest In early spring, the queen emerges from

is really important that she can find plenty of

task is to build up her energy reserves so it hibernation to start a new nest. ② Her first

a suitable nest site she will collect lots of and nurture the colony. This process is pollen and rear her first batch of eggs. nectar-rich flowers. 3 Once she has found over winter by hibernating in the ground, Only the new, fertilised queens will survive end of summer, the nest dies off naturally. male offspring, along with new queens, queen rarely leaving the nest. 5 Towards female workers whose role it will be to feed colonies the following year. which leave the nest to find a mate. At the the end of the summer the queen produces repeated throughout the summer with the These eggs develop into a group of ready to emerge and establish their own













- In the UK there are over 250 them is the honeybee and the these are bumblebees, one of
- without British bumblebees would be harder to produce are capable of buzz In the UK, only bumblebees pitched buzz, releasing polle the bee grabs hold of a
- quite useful! After feeding feet? Well they do and it's Bumblebees have smelly energy landing - the flower bumblebees to avoid wastin flower which helps other will contain very little nectar they leave a scent on the

pollinated in this way.