

Bee lawn care

The City of Minneapolis has installed “Bee Lawn” in the boulevard in front of your home. Follow this guidance to help keep the area healthy and thriving.

To learn more about sustainable landscaping practices in Minneapolis, visit the City’s Green Infrastructure page.

<https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/public-works/surface-water-sewers/programs-policy/green-infrastructure/>

Sustainable landscapes in action



Native plants in sustainable landscapes – like bee lawns and pollinator gardens – provide food and habitat for pollinators, improve air and water quality, enhance soil health, reduce urban heat, and beautify our city.

What you can do

Fertilizers or herbicide

- ⊘ Do not fertilize bee lawn areas. These plants prefer no extra fertilization.
- ⊘ Do not apply broad-spectrum herbicides on bee lawns to avoid killing the flowers. Hand pull weeds to remove.

Watering

- 💧 Water only in times of severe drought (more than two weeks without rain).

Mowing

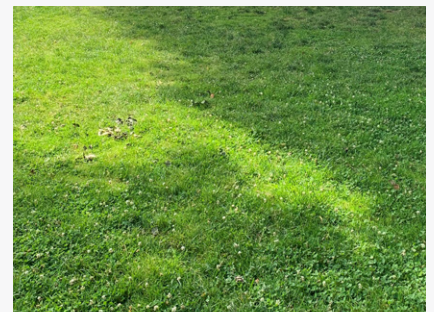
- ✂ Mow your bee lawn only if you prefer a shorter look. Bee lawn species are chosen for their short meadow-like appearance when not cut down.
- ✂ If you want to mow, set the mower deck height to 4 inches or longer. Mow at most every other week and avoid mowing during peak bloom times.

Fall care

- 🍁 Consider mowing in late fall if your bee lawn grew long all season. Rake up most leaves and clippings to prevent smothering and creating bare spots.
- 🍂 Instead of disposing of your leaves, consider raking them into garden beds to support pollinators and improve soil and perennial health.



Unmowed bee lawns won’t get too tall - the fescue retains a short meadow-like appearance.



Mowing every other week allows flowers to bloom for pollinators while keeping a tidy short look.

These plants are especially suited to thrive in a low-maintenance bee lawn. This eco-friendly plant mix includes low growing fescues and small flowering perennials that require less maintenance than traditional turf lawns and provide food for pollinators. Most bee lawns mixes include the following species:

- White Dutch Clover
- Self-Heal
- Yaak Yarrow
- Creeping Red Fescue
- Hard Fescue
- Sheep Fescue