



Green Recovery Challenge Fund

Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

The National Lottery  
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NATURAL  
ENGLAND

# North Cornwall B-Lines

## Creating Pathways for Pollinators



### Threatened bees:

Our North Cornwall B-Lines project is working with communities to help threatened bee species by creating and enhancing flower-rich habitat along the North Cornwall coast.

You can help save the bees by sowing your own miniature meadow!



#### Brown-banded Carder Bee (*Bombus humilis*)

The rarest of our 3 UK ginger bumblebee species who comb or 'card' soft fibres for their nests, hence the name 'carder bee'.

A long-tongued species, they have a taste for Red clover, Birds-foot trefoil and Common knapweed.



#### Large Scabious Mining Bee (*Andrena hattorfiana*)

Britain's largest solitary bee, you may see a female adorned with the bright pink pollen from her namesake, the pretty scabious flowers.

Not able to collect pollen from other wildflowers in Cornwall, we'd love to see this plant thriving in your garden.

Selected to help save threatened species of bees local to Cornwall.

Blooming from May - October, these flowers will provide vital food across seasons.

Your wildflowers are native to the UK and of UK provenance.

### Your wonderful wildflowers:



Field Scabious



Birds-foot Trefoil



Corn Poppies



Common Knapweed



Red Clover



Corn Chamomile

Poppies and Chamomile will bloom in the first year, bringing a pollinator pitstop to your garden.

## Growing guidance:

Choose a Spring or Autumn day during a period of warmer weather, when the soil is neither too wet nor too dry.

Wildflowers love sunny, sheltered spots so make sure your patch is not too shaded or exposed.

### Lawn?

Mow the lawn very short, remove the cuttings and rake to expose ~50% of the bare ground.

### Flower bed?

Weed your flower bed and rake to loosen the soil, providing a level sowing surface.

### Wild area?

Clear a patch, digging up the roots of weeds that would outcompete your wildflowers.


Nettles, docks or thistles thriving? Your soil is likely too nutrient-rich for wildflowers. Remove the top layer (~15cm).

### Container?

Bigger is better! Add drainage holes and stones along the bottom. Fill with peat-free compost.

Sprinkle your seeds evenly over the surface but don't bury as they need sunlight to grow.

Keep watering and watch your wildflowers bloom.

 For use in gardens, do not plant in wider countryside.



B-Lines are a beautiful solution to the loss of pollinator habitat: a UK-wide network of wildflower-rich 'insect pathways'.

Please let us know once you have created your mini meadow by adding your area to our B-Lines map.





[www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/b-lines-south-of-england/](http://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/b-lines-south-of-england/)

## Get your garden buzzing

Take notice of your new garden visitors and be sure to tag us in any pictures.



## Save the bees:

-  Mowing the lawn less often is the easiest thing you can do for your local pollinators.
-  Spread the word about rare bees and our B-Lines project.
-  Become a Buglife member - saving the small things that run the planet.
-  For more ideas, visit:

[www.buglife.org.uk/get-involved/gardening-for-bugs/](http://www.buglife.org.uk/get-involved/gardening-for-bugs/)