What can I do at home to protect bees?

- **Plant a garden** in your yard - the flowers provide necessary nutrition for bee health (SaveBees.org, 2017)
- **Buy fresh produce** and honey at only local, organic farmers markets (SaveBees.org, 2017)
- Create a “bee hotel” for native bees out of recycled wood (The Pollinator Garden, 2015)

Where can I find more information on bee protection?

- The North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC)
- American Beekeeping Federation (ABF)
- US Forest Service & Pollinator Partnership (non-profit)
- Burt’s Bees Foundation (non-profit)
Why are bees critical to our environment?

- Bees are **prodigious pollinators** for many foods we eat, such as apples, avocados and almonds (Elite Daily, 2014)
- Without bees, about **one-third** of our **global food supply** would vanish (Elite Daily, 2014)
- Approximately over **$14 billion dollars in crop value** would disappear if bees became extinct (American Beekeeping Federation, 2015)

Why is agriculture influenced by bee prosperity?

- Less bees for crop pollination means **potentially higher produce & fruit prices** (Elite Daily, 2014)
- If bees do not have enough to eat, our **food supply will suffer** (Elite Daily, 2014)
- **Climate change** negatively impacts crop production and **disrupts bee hibernation** or **synchronous flowering** in certain regions (Elite Daily, 2014)

How are bees endangered?

- The use of **pesticides** in crops poisons bees, altering foraging behavior & leading to shortened lifespans (Pollinator Partnership, 2015)
- **Varroa parasitization** kills bee larvae & impairs wing development (Pollinator Partnership, 2015)
- **Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD)** causes bees to leave their hives spontaneously (Yale Environment 360, 2013)