

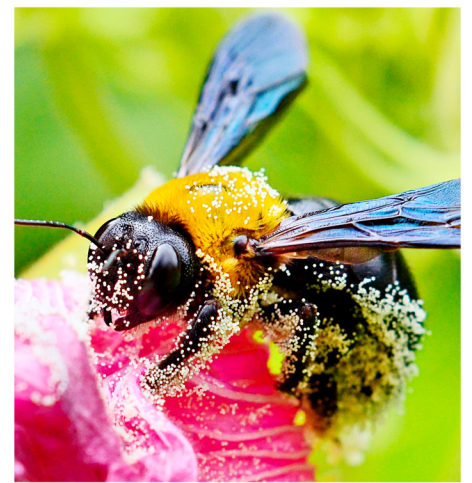
# GET READY

## FOR THE RETURN OF CARPENTER BEES



The carpenter bee normally attracts a lot of attention in Indiana in late spring and early summer.

Adult carpenter bees are large, one inch or slightly longer, robust insects.



They are blackish in color and have yellowish hairs, mostly on the thorax.

The abdomen is shiny black and is bare of hairs on top.

### WHERE CAN YOU FIND THEM AT YOUR PROPERTY?

Carpenter bees burrow into the dry wood of buildings, telephone poles and fence posts, causing an unsightly appearance to the wood and structural weakness. They usually choose wood that is soft and easy to work. Carpenter bees usually avoid well-painted wood and wood with bark on it. Wood with a stain or light coat of paint can be attacked. Also, wood that has been lightly pressure treated with metallic salts could become infested.

### WHEN WILL THEY ARRIVE THIS YEAR?

Female carpenter bees seldom sting but when disturbed or handled they can inflict a painful sting. Male carpenter bees cannot sting but they often become aggressive. In the late spring and early summer, adult carpenter bees emerge from protected overwintering sites. These fertilized females soon begin boring into susceptible wood. After a gallery has been constructed, an egg is deposited with a mass of pollen and nectar. Then the egg with provisions is sealed off with a plug of wood pulp and saliva. The process is continued at the rate of one cell each day until approximately six cells are constructed.

### ANY WAY TO GET RID OF THE BEES?

There are only a couple of options for organic control. Boric acid can be used to control carpenter bees by placing this powder in the area or in the holes they make. Secondly, spraying pyrethrins, these chemicals are derived from chrysanthemums and are generally not considered to be dangerous. Professional pest control operators can be especially helpful when carpenter bees are a problem and keep return to the property.

**(800) 662-2080** Fort Wayne

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**Call Aardvark Pest Control to Stay Carpenter Bee Free!**