

Protocol for reporting an observation of a nest-hunting queen bumble bee

When:

- On warm sunny days (>65°F) with little wind (< 10 mph)
- Between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00pm. Since bees are not warm-blooded like mammals, you have the best chance of spotting queens in spring after it has already warmed up for the day, and before it starts to cool down again in the evening.
- As you are going about your daily business, walking the dog, keeping up the yard or garden...wherever you see a queen bumble bee nest hunting
- You can submit as many observations as you'd like during spring when queens are emerging and establishing new nests (April – May)

Where:

- Around your home, or at a local park / nature center, along city sidewalks or roadside ditches, or other public places
- Bumble bee queens typically search for nest sites in places where there is woody debris and/or leaf litter and small crevices or holes in the ground
- Some species build their nests underground in abandoned rodent burrows, while others nest near the surface under vegetation or woody debris (grass tussocks, fallen logs, compost piles, the edge of the asphalt in your driveway...)
- They may be searching for nest sites on a forested hillside by a stream, or in the field, depending on the species

How to report data:

- Each time you spot a nest-hunting queen, send us information on the observation by filling out this data sheet using **Google Forms** at (click, or copy paste this link into the address bar of your browser):
<https://goo.gl/forms/1ebM6AcEf2FxcQQT2>
 - OR...if you are having trouble with google forms, you can fill out the data sheet on the next page in Word and send it back by email to Jessie at: OSUBeeResearch@gmail.com
- If you have any photos of this nest hunting bumble bee that you want to share, please send it to us at OSUBeeResearch@gmail.com.

Grab a pen and a notebook. Here is the specific info you need to record for each observation:

- Date, Time, Temperature (can estimate from watching the morning news, newspaper, online...), Weather (sunny or cloudiness)
- Location (street address and/or GPS coordinates, or name of park + trail)
- Habitat type (forest, woodland, edge or transitional zone, wetland, grassland/meadow, maintained yard or flower bed)

- Total number of queen bumble bees you saw, total amount of time you spent there
- Species of bee you observed

Specific features of the habitat