



Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

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Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

American Bumble Bee *Bombus pensylvanicus*

State Status: **None**
Federal Status: **None**

DESCRIPTION: The American Bumble Bee is a native bumble bee. As for many native bees, consultation of a technical manual is needed for accurate identification. For a complete description of male and female, see: <http://www.discoverlife.org/mp/20q?search=Bombus+pensylvanicus&flags=subgenus>:

HABITAT: This species nests on the surface of the ground.

LIFE HISTORY: Its flight season is May to October.

GEOGRAPHIC RANGE: Formerly, this species ranged across the continent and was widespread in Massachusetts.

STATUS AND THREATS: This bee has exhibited a precipitous decline rangewide and may be extirpated from Massachusetts. Introduced pathogens are primarily responsible for its current status.

REFERENCES:

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Photo courtesy of The Packer Lab – Bee Tribes of the World

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- Colla, S., L. Richardson, and P. Williams. 2011. Bumble Bees of the Eastern United States. U.S. Forest Service and Pollinator Partnership. Available from <http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/documents/BumbleBeeGuideEast2011.pdf>
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A Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Massachusetts State Wildlife Action Plan

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

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