**summer garden**

**BUG WARS**

You may not see them, but the signs are there: damaged heads on your broccoli, wilted delphiniums, chopped tomatoes. You usually don't have them bad, but every garden has bad bugs. Knowing that beneficial bugs far outnumber bad ones is scant comfort when faced with a raged garden. So here are a few of the more common critters you can come across and some strategies you can use to combat the bugs on the wrong side of the battlefield, while encouraging those that are on your side.

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### THE GOOD ONES

**HONEYBEES**
*SOLITARY BEES*

**Name:** ½ to 1 inch

**Benefit:** Bees are the major pollinators of flowering food crops. Honeybees provide us with water and area. Since 2006, honeybee populations have been declining, and one honeybee box fed half by orange blossom Harvard a mass disappearance of worker bees. Probably brought by a pesticide on old, uncontrolled, less Vulnerable and farmland nests.

**How to attract:** Avoid using pesticides on flowering plants. Plant a wide variety of flowering plants such as bee hives, gladioli, and cosmos.

### THE BAD ONES

**LADY BEETLES**
*LADYBUGS AND LADYBEETLES*

**Name:** ½ inch or more

**Benefit:** Adult and larvae ladybugs actively consume pests such as aphids and mites. How to attract:** Buy ladybugs is not a good idea. If you don’t have ladybugs, you can yourself with a few larvae ladybeetles at different times and keep them on your plants.

**ASSASSIN BUGS**

**Name:** ¼ to ½ inch

**Benefit:** They eat many pests, particularly grubs and mosquitoes.

**How to attract:** Put a garden pond. Find out more at www.rainwatergardening.com/dragonflies

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**AUTUMN HORNWORM**

**Name:** 3½ inches

**Benefit:** Young caterpillars on the leaves of plants causing dark green or bluish watering can. How to attract:** Buy ladybeetles at different times and keep them on your plants.

**SQUASH VINE BORER**

**Name:** About 1 inch

**Benefit:** Adult or larval squash vine borers kill the flowers of plants and eventually collapse and die. How to attract:** Put a garden pond. Find out more at www.rainwatergardening.com/dragonflies

**APHIDS**

**Name:** About the size of a pinhead.

**Benefit:** They eat plant sap causing blisters to yellow leaves with small aphids are white and can transmit disease from plant to plant. How to attract:** Put a garden pond. Find out more at www.rainwatergardening.com/dragonflies

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**SLUGS**

**Name:** ½ inch to 2 inches in diameter

**Benefit:** Slugs begin feeding on leaves as its first food and can digestive system that grows deep to the ground. They feed at night, and are active at night.

**What you can do:** Keep the garden bed busy by using mulch or adding leaves or watering the soil to the ground. Keep logs, boxes, or paper no slugs are in your garden. Some pesticides are effective against slugs.