

Miner Bees



There are currently numerous miner bee colonies working in and around various bunkers on the golf course, most notably on holes 3, 5 and 11.

You will probably be aware that all bees are in serious trouble, and when bees are in trouble, we are in trouble. The pollination that bees assures us of food crops, industrial crops, flowers, recreation areas, and some types of wood, fiber, spice, fragrance, animal feed, and so on.

Killing a bee is not in our own self-interest, nor is it in the interest of our children or our planet and we need to let them flourish.

Since there are so many species of mining bee, it is impossible to characterize them in a few words. But here are some facts that apply to most:

- Most are harmless to humans. Nearly all the females have stingers, but the stingers are often too small to penetrate human skin. Yes, some do sting, but the stings, especially in lawn-dwelling species, are light—nothing like a wasp or honey bee.
- They are non-aggressive. The head of each household has to do everything herself: build a home, lay eggs, collect food for winter, defend her young from other insects, and feed herself. She has little time to get everything done, and virtually no time to mess with you.
- Most are active a very short time. After about four-to-six weeks of furious activity, they disappear for another year.
- Chances are good that you will not get stung even if you walk through the nesting area.