

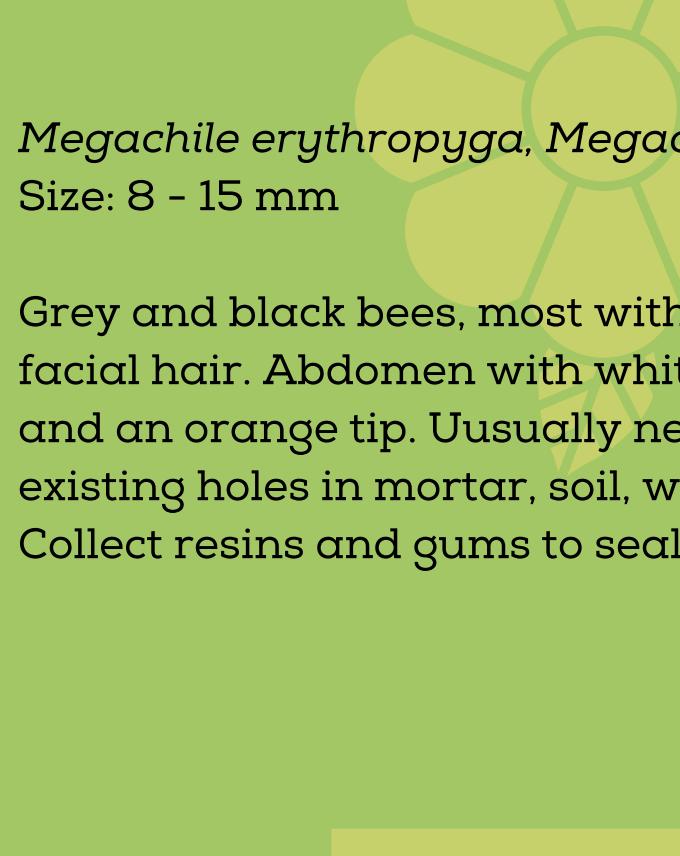
# Native bees of Moreland



There are at least 12 native bee species recorded in Moreland LGA, but the true number is likely to be higher. Here are the species you are likely to encounter in Moreland's parks and gardens.

## Banded sweat-bees

rjennion



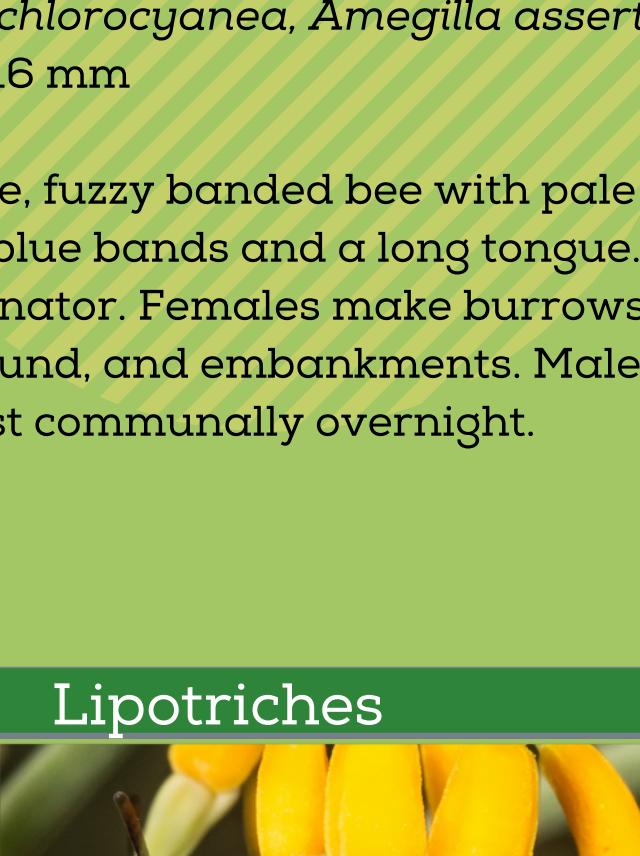
*Lasioglossum callophyllae*,  
other *Lasioglossum* species in the  
subgenus *Chilalictus*.  
Size: 8-12 mm

Several species of black to dark bees,  
many with partial or complete dull,  
pale bands on abdomen. Common.

## Resin bees

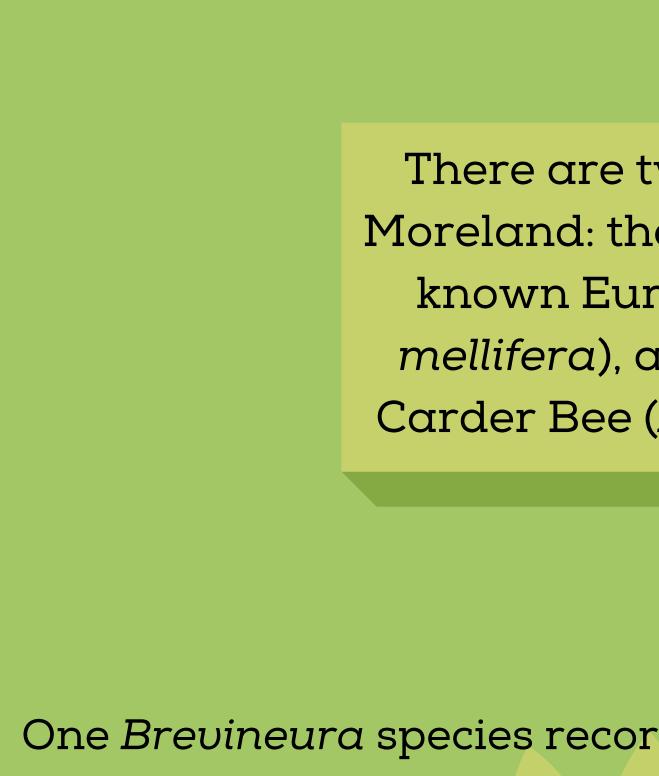
*Megachile erythropyga*, *Megachile ferox*  
Size: 8 - 15 mm

Grey and black bees, most with white  
facial hair. Abdomen with white bands  
and an orange tip. Usually nest on pre-  
existing holes in mortar, soil, wood.  
Collect resins and gums to seal nests.



There's much unknown about  
Australia's bees. Spend some time  
looking closely and it is likely you will  
find a species that has never before  
been recorded in the area.

## Blue-banded bees



Kym Nicolson

*Amegilla chlorocyanea*, *Amegilla asserta*  
Size: 14 - 16 mm

Distinctive, fuzzy banded bee with pale  
to bright blue bands and a long tongue.  
Buzz pollinator. Females make burrows  
in the ground, and embankments. Males  
often roost communally overnight.

## Lipotriches

*Lipotriches* species in subgenus  
*Austronomia*  
Size: 10 - 14 mm

Two species likely in the area. Medium  
sized bees. Pale bands of bristly, fringed  
hairs. Long antennae. Buzz pollinator.  
Males often roost overnight  
communally.



## Plume-vented bees



*Lasioglossum (Homalictus)*  
*sphecodoides*, other species in  
subgenus *Homalictus*  
Size: 6-8 mm

Very small bees with a green, blue, or  
copper metallic sheen on the thorax.  
Some with red abdomen and legs. Four  
species likely in Moreland. Common.

There are two exotic bee species in  
Moreland: the very common and well-  
known European Honeybee (*Apis  
mellifera*), and the still rare African  
Carder Bee (*Afranthidium repetitum*)

## Reed bees

One *Breuneura* species recorded.

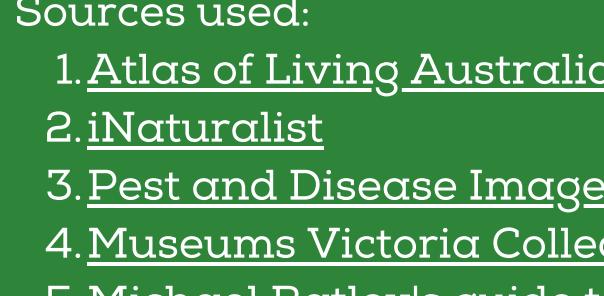
*Exoneura* also possibly present.

Size: 5-8 mm

Small bees nesting in hollow fern  
fronds and reed stems. Glossy black  
head and thorax, rust-red abdomen.  
Females have distinctive flat spot on  
hind abdomen.



## Masked bees



*Hylaeus littleri* recorded. *Hylaeus nubilosus*  
and *Hylaeus euxanthus* probably occur

Size: 4-8 mm

Very small bees, hairless, mostly black,  
with distinctive bright coloured facial  
markings. Solitary nesters, usually in  
hollow stems.

These bees have not been seen in Moreland for  
many years (date of last record in brackets)

- *Lasioglossum (Parasphecodes) hiltacum* (1956)

- *Hyleoides concinna* (1946)

- *Lasioglossum (Chilalictus) lanarium* (1934)

- *Megachile (Eutricharaea) obtusa* (1906)

Created by Michael Whitehead ([michaelwhitehead.net](http://michaelwhitehead.net))

Sources used:

1. [Atlas of Living Australia](#)

2. [iNaturalist](#)

3. [Pest and Disease Image Library \(PaDIL\)](#)

4. [Museums Victoria Collections](#)

5. Michael Batley's guide to *Megachile* and *Hylaeus*

Photos by Michael Whitehead unless otherwise attributed

v1 2021

