



Bee City USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education BETHANIA, NORTH CAROLINA



EDUCATION & OUTREACH



L-R: 1) One of Bethania's residential pollinator gardens. 2) Bee City USA- Bethania tabled at the annual Black Walnut Festival
Photos: Randy Rogers

The Bee City USA- Bethania Committee hosted a tent/table at the annual Black Walnut Festival on September 29 attended by several hundred people who received educational information on pollinators and their habitat. The Bethania Bee City USA Committee may consider other events for participation in the future.

POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



L-R: butterfly on phlox. 2) Joe Pye weed. 3) Milkweed. 4) Tiger swallowtail butterfly on goldenrod. Photos: Randy Rogers

Established in 1759 and registered as a 500-acre National Historic Landmark, the Moravian town of Bethania is the only remaining example of a European open-style agricultural village in North Carolina. Historic Bethania was the first of 35 planned agricultural villages within the 100,000-acre Wachovia Tract when it was settled in 1759 by members of the Moravian Church. Surveyor Christian Philip Gottleib Reuter designed Bethania to withstand the challenges and dangers of the often hostile frontier landscape during the tumultuous years of the French and Indian Wars. Borrowing from town designs used in Medieval Europe, Reuter clustered the individual home lots in the center of the 2,500 acres that comprised the Bethania Town Lot and surrounded these residential lots with land segregated into orchard lots, bottom land lots, and upland lots. The town included houses, tradesman shops, a church, school, barns, animal husbandry facilities and gardens.

The Piedmont Land Conservancy has worked with community members and the State to permanently protect 176 acres of Bethania's historic natural landscape, including: scenic bluffs and former agricultural lands surrounding the heart of the village, the original apple orchards which are currently under restoration, a trail corridor along Muddy Creek, and other open lands. You can see some of Bethania's beauty here: <http://townofbethania.org/trails/>

The Bethania Bee City USA committee seeks to enhance pollinator habitat on Bethania's natural historic landscape. We have a mix of landscape on the 176 acres including upland forest, upland meadows, and riparian buffer. Volunteers regularly mow the trails, cut back woody growth, and bush-hog the fields in late winter to enhance pollinator habitat.

POLICIES & PRACTICES

The Bee City USA - Bethania Committee is made up of a mix of local citizens interested in pollinators and their conservation, one of our town commissioners, our mayor, our Historic Trails Coordinator, a representative of the Forsyth Cooperative Extension Service and a local beekeeper. We anticipate a native plant list, an IPM plan, a list of regional suppliers, and other information will be added to our online resources soon.

CONTACT US!

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