



# Bee City USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education



## PUYALLUP, WASHINGTON

### EDUCATION & OUTREACH



The City of Puyallup held both on-site and social media events in 2018, in order to reach a wider audience of people. The purpose of this year's outreach was to educate in a fun way that engaged the community through presentations, displays, and contests. The City has also continued to update their website to include pollinator conservation information, and resources through Puget Sound Beekeepers Association. Keeping our resources up-to-date is a critical way to ensure individuals looking to learn more about our Bee City designation and how they can help, have the proper information they need to become involved and help save our pollinators in this City.

#### **Social Media Outreach**

We began our social media campaign by creating a Facebook post on the City's page, which included information and a call to action to get involved as a citizen scientist in Puyallup, to determine bee populations for the Pacific Northwest Bumble Bee Atlas. The City encouraged both individuals and groups to become involved. Subsequently, the Atlas was added to our City website for permanent citizen reference.

The City then held an Instagram and Facebook Contest (May 14-June 11). Followers were encouraged to enter an original photo with a pollinator theme or photo of a pollinator-themed painted rock (with hashtags, such as #ourpuyallup, #puyalluprocks, #beecityusa.org, #ourpuyallupbees painted on the back) for entry. Painted rocks given to the Puyallup Public Library for display were given an additional entry. Prizes (Raw honey and various bath and beauty items) were donated by local BeeKing's Co. Following the end of the contest, rocks were displayed in the rain garden outside of the library June 18 and 24, and then given to community members and children for hiding around the community. A link to the City's website on being a Bee City were included with each rock in order to spread awareness to rock finders.



#### **On-site Education & Outreach**

The city put together a bee display in the main area of the Puyallup Public Library. The display included multiple types of educational and fictional books on bees (adult and children's books), an informational poster on being a Bee City, and a link to learn more about pollinators on our City website.

Specifically for children, the City held a pollinator rock painting event during the Library Summer Kick-off Party on June 23, 2018, at the Pacific Science Center in Seattle. This gave educators an opportunity to teach children about pollinators and the science behind what they do for us and our crops, in accompaniment to their educational even at the science center.

Towards the end of summer, City staff hosted a booth at the Puyallup Farmers' Market that included pollinator themed face painting (flowers, butterflies, bees), free packets of wildflower seeds and honey sticks to those who stopped by the booth and Pollinator Toolkit handouts provided to the City by Pollinator Partnership. Staff was also available to answer questions about the Bee City designation, what efforts were being made in 2018 and what is in store for 2019. The City welcomed suggestions for possible future events and information, encouraging partnership and participation.

## POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



This year, two habitat projects were completed within the city; a natural area with tree snags and bare area for nesters was created and maintained, as well as the removal of invasive plant species for habitat improvement. The locations for these two projects include: Silver Creek and Meeker Creek.

In August of 2018, the City began the transformation of our new Van Lierop city park. As a part of Phase One, wildflowers were planted within the park, in the vast open fields and along the walking paths, to encourage

pollinator habitat. As the City continues to improve the park, plans are underway to continue to promote pollinator habitat in this unique open-space park through plantings, and designated habitat areas.

## POLICIES & PRACTICES

The City maintains a Vegetation Management Standards document (v. 1133) for all landscaping policy and procedure. Within this document, in Section 14, the City included a list of 40 approved pollinator-friendly native plants that are to be regularly planted and maintained throughout the City, as well as their seasonal schedules. Examples of these native species planted in May-August include: Osoberry, Oregon Grape, Ninebark, Nootka rose, Douglas spirea, and Oceanspray. The City aims to plant a wide variety of pollinator plants, from forbs and shrubs to flowers.

### **Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List—**

<http://www.cityofpuyallup.org/DocumentCenter/View/1133/Vegetation-Management-Standards-?bidId>

### **Regional Native Plant Supplier List—To be developed**

**Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan—To be developed**

## CONTACT US!

**Committee—**Puyallup Bee City Committee

**Website—** <http://www.cityofpuyallup.org/1178/Bee-City>

**Social Media—** <https://www.facebook.com/PuyallupCity/?ref=bookmarks>