



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



## WHITEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

### EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Home to the North Carolina Honey Festival, Whiteville was certified as a Bee City USA affiliate in October 2016. In 2018, Whiteville hosted nine pollinator awareness events and issued a proclamation for and celebrated National Pollinator Week.

Whiteville applied for a received and \$1300 grant from Bee City USA from funds awarded by the Duke Energy Foundation for the following educational materials: T-Shirts, Stickers, Static Cling bee decals, Posters, Honey Sticks, Pollinator Antennae Activity Materials and Signage for Pollinator Gardens. According to Nikki Walker, "We have used several materials purchased to educate our community about pollinators and the habitats that they live in. We have created gardens within our community and used signage to educate on what types of plants that we have installed that are loved by various pollinators in hopes that others will follow our example and plant pollinator friendly plants as well. We have conducted programs at various elementary schools and

provided students with a taste of honey, that many of them have never had. We are using the various materials purchased at the NC Honey Festival to conduct kid-friendly activities to teach about the honeybee and other pollinators. We are trying to reach the hearts and minds of students so that they will grow into conscientious adults.”

## POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT

Despite the fact that Whiteville suffered historic flooding from Hurricane Florence in 2018, eight volunteers spent 30 hours to establish The Healing Garden at Columbus Regional HealthCare. We placed educational signage at the Healing Garden, as well as at a local park. We also converted 900 square feet of lawn to pollinator habitat.

## POLICIES & PRACTICES

Our committee includes members of the Columbus County Beekeepers Association (Steve Smith, Ricky Boswell, Lucy Boswell, Patrick Dwyer, Nikki Walker, Michael Shuman) and an Agricultural Extension Agent. Whiteville’s city manager is an ex-officio member.

**Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List**— <https://www.nature.org/en-us/get-involved/how-to-help/places-we-protect/green-swamp-preserve/>

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

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

## CONTACT US!

**Committee**—Columbus County Beekeepers Association Bee City Committee Chair: Steve Smith, [stevesmithncemail@gmail.com](mailto:stevesmithncemail@gmail.com)

**Social Media**—<https://www.facebook.com/ColumbusCountyBeekeepersAssociation/>