

# Bee City USA - Ashland

Report on 2020

## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

1. Subcommittee members Kristina Lefever and Nancy Appling both contribute to the demonstration gardens at North Mountain Park. In 2020, the gardening season kicked off during the beginning of the COVID -19 pandemic. So, for the first several months of the growing season, volunteers came independently to garden outside of formal work parties. These “guerilla gardeners” were crucial to the health of the Demonstration gardens and Heirloom Gardens at North Mountain Park. When health and safety rules allowed people to gather in small outdoor groups, our team reconvened and work continued at social distance. Throughout 2020, numerous weekly and monthly work parties are hosted by the Nature Center staff, to care for these important pollinator habitats. 2. BCUA team members showed up to help plant and then maintain the new BCUA-supported Riverwalk Community Pollinator Pocket Park. This pollinator garden was created over several years by members of the BCUA and the community, using solarization, sheet mulching, planting, and weeding techniques. Many thanks to Riverwalk resident Carolyn Hunsaker and her husband Don for this vision and plan to make it happen! 3. BCUA team members Nancy, Kristina and Albert Pepe visited our pollinator garden at The Grove (APRC Office) several times to do weeding and general maintenance. 4. Parks and Rec staff facilitated the Volunteer in Parks program, as well as numerous work parties during the year to reduce and eliminate weedy plant species in lieu of using herbicides in our parks. 5. Mountain Meadows, a large retirement development within a mile of North Mountain Park, installed a another pollinator garden and continued to remove blackberries in their riparian areas.



A few photos of community members at work in Ashland Parks during just a few of the work days during 2020.



Planting the Riverwalk Community Pollinator Pocket Park May 2020. Photo: Nancy Appling



Carolyn and Don Hunsaker accepting the BCUA Approved Garden sign! July 2020. Photo: Kristina Lefever



## Education & Outreach

1. BCUA invited everyone with an approved BCUA pollinator garden to a 'Pollinator Garden Social' at North Mountain Park to meet and greet each other and share a few photos and stories from their gardens. 2. BCUA invited the gardeners with an approved pollinator garden (77 approved as of the end of 2020) to create a virtual pollinator garden tour. Thirteen gardeners created a short video of and about their garden, which was posted on the Ashland Parks and Rec Facebook page during the week preceding and the week of National Pollinator Week. The videos may be found here:

[https://www.ashland.or.us/Files/2020\\_pollinator\\_garden\\_tour\\_videos.pdf](https://www.ashland.or.us/Files/2020_pollinator_garden_tour_videos.pdf)



**You're Invited!**  
**Bee City USA Ashland**  
**Pollinator Gardener Gathering!**

When: Monday, March 2  
Time: 4:00 - 5:30 pm  
Where: The Grove  
1195 E. Main St.

Please RSVP by February 17  
Please come and meet fellow BCUA Gardeners, and share your garden with us! If you wish, send up to 5 pictures of your garden to [Kristinabcuashland@gmail.com](mailto:Kristinabcuashland@gmail.com) by **Monday, Feb. 17** to be compiled into a slide show.  
Join the discussion about our 4th Annual Pollinator Garden Tour, scheduled for **Saturday and Sunday, June 20 - 21, 2020**.  
Questions? Call Kristina at 678-209-7642



Some of the gardeners with BCUA Approved Pollinator Gardens at the March 2020 'Social'. Photo: Parks staff.



YOUTUBE.COM  
**Pollinator Garden Virtual Tour 2020**  
This video is about Pollinator Garden 2020

The videos from our 2020 Virtual Garden Tour can be found here:  
[https://www.ashland.or.us/Files/2020\\_pollinator\\_garden\\_tour\\_videos.pdf](https://www.ashland.or.us/Files/2020_pollinator_garden_tour_videos.pdf)

Invitation to "Social" to talk meet, greet, and talk about the 4th Annual Pollinator Garden Tour (which became a virtual tour with about 12 video submissions)

## Policies & Practices

Ashland has had an IPM in place for 10 years, and does not use pesticides in its parks. We have a Volunteer Coordinator who organizes community members to help with maintenance in and around our city parks. Ashland Parks and Recreation continued to undertake mechanical removal of weeds, instead of herbicide application. APRC continued to facilitate volunteer work parties, in so far as the pandemic allowed.

### Integrated Pest Management Plan:

[https://www.ashland.or.us/SIB/files/APRC/APRC%20Policies/IntegratedPestManagement\\_Signed7-22-2019.pdf](https://www.ashland.or.us/SIB/files/APRC/APRC%20Policies/IntegratedPestManagement_Signed7-22-2019.pdf)

### Recommended Native Plant List:

[https://www.ashlandsaveswater.org/assets/NativePlants\\_10.2010.pdf](https://www.ashlandsaveswater.org/assets/NativePlants_10.2010.pdf)

### Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

[https://www.ashland.or.us/Files/NATIVE\\_PLANT\\_RESOURCES\\_IN\\_SOUTHWEST\\_OREGON.pdf](https://www.ashland.or.us/Files/NATIVE_PLANT_RESOURCES_IN_SOUTHWEST_OREGON.pdf)



Learn More

<https://www.ashland.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=17460>



BCU Ashland sub-committee: LtoR, top: Nancy Appling, Libby Van Wyhe (Staff Liaison), Lorrie Kaplan; bottom: Kristina Lefever, Leslie Eldridge (Parks Commissioner), Albert Pepe.

