

Bee City USA - Westminster

Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Various projects have been completed in 2021 within the city of Westminster to improve pollinator habitats. An eagle scout created a small vegetable garden inside Standley Lake Regional Park & Wildlife Refuge's pollinator garden. These vegetables are meant for the turtles within the Nature Center but also for any pollinators. Several milkweed seeds were also planted along an acre of land at Standley Lake to give monarchs a steady food source. The Westminster Bee Club continues to take care of the apiary located at Standley Lake, which provides honeybees a place to live and produce honey. Lastly, the Brauch Property within Westminster planted many native wildlife flowers on their front property! This resulted in the appearances of various types of pollinators.



Education & Outreach

In the year of 2021, the Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge had 10 pollinator-related programs. Urban Nature Hike, Sunset Stroll and Remarkable Relationships were programs in the spring. They included topics such as local pollinators and the plants they pollinate, nocturnal pollinators and the very interesting relationship between the Yucca Moth and Yucca plant. During the summer, a program was held each day during National Pollinator Week. Bees, butterflies, birds and other pollinators were highlighted throughout the week. Lastly, the Westminster Bee Club did 3 outreach programs and talks at 2 separate garden clubs.





Children looking closely at insect pollinators

Policies & Practices

At the Standley Lake Regional Park & Wildlife Refuge the use of any type of pesticide is prohibited. Other methods are used to ensure the safety of the wildlife and high quality of the lake's water. Goats are commonly used to get rid of noxious weeds and other unwanted plants. They came in early summer of 2021 and stayed for about 2 weeks. Every few days, they were moved to a different location to cover several acres within the park. Each area the goats go is tracked using a GPS system, so the city can track the progress of noxious weed removal supplied by the goats. The release of insects is used as



well. The city does a vigorous process before insects are released into the wild, but once it is approved, insects are released to eat unwanted plants. Weeding with immediate seeding and planting has become a useful method to prevent the re-growth of invasive plants. This method is often used in Standley Lake's pollinator garden. The city's forestry department also does their best to be respectful to pollinators. They follow product labels and apply pesticides during windows that are considerate of pollinators, select pesticides that are less harmful to pollinators when possible, plant trees that benefit pollinators and consult/cooperate with bee hive relocation experts when hazardous trees containing hives need to be removed.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List: [Low Water Plants for Pollinators.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://butterflies.org/>

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