Bee City USA - Bee Cave
Report on 2022

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Wildflower planting along roadside (co-hosted) Wildflower planting in Bee Cave Central Park (co-hosted with Friends of the Park) Wildflower honeycomb garden with Eagle Scout Troop No Mow May Education day at elementary school creating seed bombs

How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance last year?
4

How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?
8503021

How many volunteers helped with those projects?
20

Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance last year with pollinator benefit in mind.

- Flower garden

- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species

- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)

- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)

- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting

- Roadside/rights of way planting

City of Bee Cave pollinator garden with Eagle Scout Troop, photo by Anna Jensen

City of Bee Cave volunteers and members of the Bee Cave Friends of the Parks planting wildflower seeds in our park

Education & Outreach

Books & Bees Festival (hosted by committee): A full day book festival and bee education event. It included handing out free native Texas wildflower seeds specifically for pollinators, a bee educator teaching children about bees with fun trivia and games, authors that specialized in native plants and their importance in the Texas Hill Country, overall bee branding for greater awareness, bee themed games and art projects for children. Video of National Honey Month: (hosted by committee) Educational video involving city council members and mayor to learn about bees, honeybees in particular, and the different types, how they make honey and their overall significance to the ecosystem. Posted on social media and YouTube. Wildflower seed demonstration at the park: (hosted by committee) Families came out to our Bee Cave Central Park to learn about planting native wildflower seeds before the rains instead of traditional landscaping to help our pollinators. Handed out 50 free packets of seeds, bee magazines and information. Scout Honeycomb wildflower garden: (not hosted by committee) City helped create and maintain a honeycomb shaped wildflower garden with the local Eagle Scouts troop. School seed bombs: City's parks department worked with elementary school children on creating bee themed seed bombs with wildflower seeds and educated the children on the importance of these wildflowers for pollinators. Wildflower seed spreading: The City along with the Friends of the Park Foundation hosted a wildflower spreading event at the park.

How many pollinator-related events did your affiliate host or help with last year (in total)?
5

How many people attended those events (in total)?
1500

How many Bee City USA logo street signs have you installed to date (in total)?
2

Did your city council/county commission (highest elected body) issue a proclamation for National Pollinator Week last summer? Please note: this is now an optional activity.
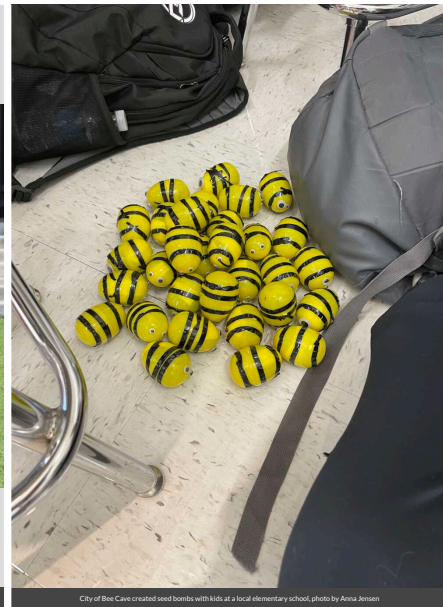
- No

City of Bee Cave wildflower seed demonstration at Books and Bees Festival, photo by Mary Lyons

City of Bee Cave teaching kids about bees at the Books and Bees Festival, photo by Mary Lyons

City of Bee Cave created seed bombs with kids at a local elementary school, photo by Anna Jensen

Policies & Practices

We distributed alternative to pesticides list on residents, encouraging them to use different methods. We passed a proclamation for No Mow May, didn't mow on our public land for the month and encouraged residents to do the same. We continued to plant areas on our public lands that aren't treated with pesticides. Refrained from all pesticide use during No Mow May

What actions have you taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly?

- Implemented or maintained a written IPM plan

- Avoided use of pesticides in public sites containing designated pollinator habitat or other sensitive features (except when targeted use is deemed the best option for invasive or noxious weed, insect or disease management)

- Implemented non-chemical pest prevention and management methods on city or campus grounds

- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied

- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use

- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds using "Buying Bee-Safe Plants" methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants)

- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids

- Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants using "Buying Bee-Safe Plants" methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants)

- Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants that were not treated with neonicotinoids

Are efforts underway in your community to further reduce pesticide use in residential or business areas? This may include neighborhood-led efforts, outreach to landscapers, etc. If so, please describe.
Our City Council is voting on March 28th to officially make the bee an 'honored resident' of Bee Cave in order to help promote pesticide free habitats and a sense of community protection for bees. We are planning to send out informational leaflets on reduction in pesticide use and alternative methods. We are publicizing information on alternatives to pesticides on social media and in videos.

In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?
Yes, we are in the process of created a nature center, with education on protecting waterways, native plants and native pollinators. We are holding in March a NatureFest where families can get come information on protecting our native species and participate in hands-on activities.

Please describe actions by your affiliate to attend training on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management and/or to review IPM plans and programs considered of high quality by Bee City USA?

Our committee chair attended a webinar and we plan to attend more this year

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [IPM.pdf](IPM.pdf)

Recommended Native Plant List: NativePlantList.pdf

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: NativePlantList.pdf

PARDON
the
WEEDS

WE ARE FEEDING
THE BEES!

Learn More

City of Bee Cave Bee City USA Committee, Photo by Jenny Hoff