

Bee City USA - Town of Berlin

Report on 2022



Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

1. St. Paul's Episcopal Church established a large pollinator friendly garden. 2. Main Street's Memorial Garden was enhanced by the Berlin Horticulture Advisory Committee. 3. Local Post Office established a pollinator garden done by the Berlin Horticulture Advisory Committee. 4. The Calvin B. Taylor House Museum established a large pollinator garden with bee boxes.

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?

500

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

30

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...)
- Herb garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Rain garden/bioswale



Memorial Garden

Education & Outreach

1. Invited a local Beekeeper back to our Farmers Market free of charge to bring educational materials to help educate our community on the importance of our pollinators! They bring honey combs and a bee suit to the market for show. They also sell their honey. *we hosted* 2. Pollinator Week – handed out free native plant seeds at our Farmers Market and did our annual Pollinator Fun Fact Scavenger Hunt where we put about 20 fun facts in windows of local businesses and our community and visitors try and find each one. *we hosted* 3. Garden Tours hosted by a local nonprofit Lower Shore Land Trust. 4. Hired a local artist to paint an interactive pollinator mural in an alley right off Main Street called Pollinator Way.

We also hired the local tech school to build bioretention gardens to catch rain run off in the same alley. We plan to have a ribbon cutting this year. *We hosted* 5. Keep Pride in Berlin & Clean Up Day 2022 – Each year for earth day we host a community clean up day. Volunteers are provided trash bags and gloves and they clean an area of their choosing, whether it be a park, our downtown area, or their neighborhood. *we hosted*

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

3

How many people attended those events (in total)?

250

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

4

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.

- Yes



Policies & Practices

Berlin's pest management spraying is done away from our pollinator gardens and done very minimally.

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)
- Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds
- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
- Restricted pesticides used to organic pesticides on city or campus grounds
- 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.

The Berlin Horticulture Advisory Committee is working with the Public Works department to develop the safest way to spray. We also have Bee City brochures and books available at the Berlin Welcome Center that we encourage our visitors to read or take with them.

In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?

Spraying has been eliminated from all pollinator gardens in our town.

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?

The members of the The Berlin Horticulture Advisory Committee are very educated on ecologically-based IPM and work with a local nonprofit called the Lower Shore Land Trust and the State of Maryland Department of Agriculture. They provided information to the Town of Berlin employees and make sure everyone is practicing regulated and safe IPM.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [Pest Management for Berlin.docx](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [2021 Native Plant Guide \(3\).pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://www.lowershorelandtrust.org/pollinators>



Weeding, never spraying!

Learn More

<https://berlinmd.gov/>
aeary@berlinmd.gov

<https://www.facebook.com/townofberlinmd>
<https://www.instagram.com/townofberlinmd/?hl=en>





A few of our committee members at work!

