

Bee City USA - Charleston

Report on 2022



Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

The City of Charleston offered grants for individuals/businesses to install rain gardens with natives and flowering plants. The City of Charleston also worked with volunteers to plant new pollinator plants in Gadsdenboro Park following a pollinator assessment of multiple City Parks downtown. Gadsdenboro was found to have the few and least diverse counts of the surveyed parks. City of Charleston also added pollinated-friendly plants to a number of parks and newly constructed spaces as part of its usual planting/landscaping activities. City of Charleston renovated a public park space with new plantings (Mary Conway Park).

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

23

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

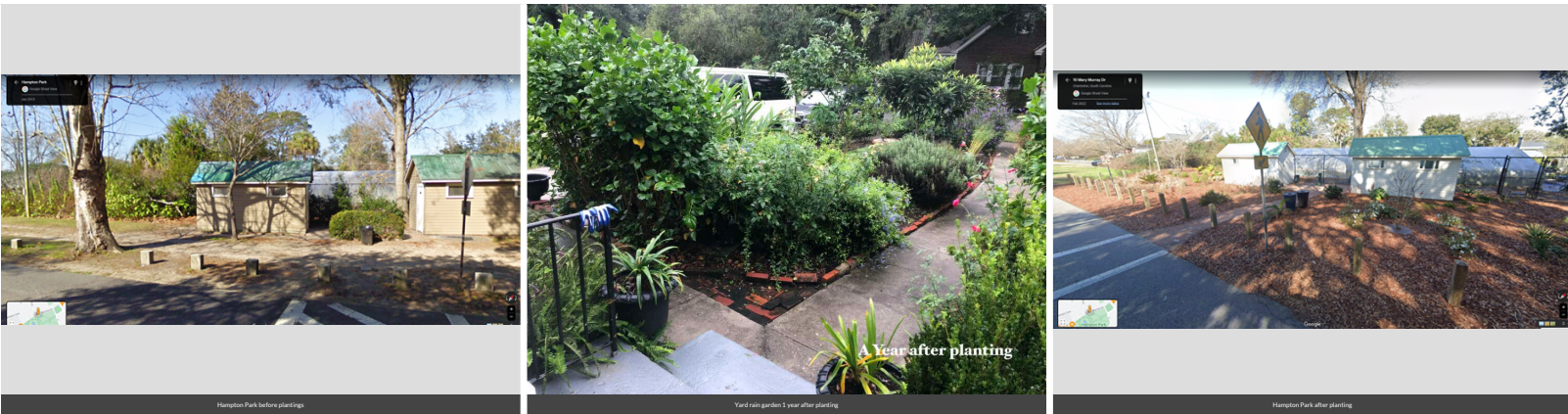
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How many volunteers helped with those projects?

60

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

- Flower garden
- Rain garden/bioswale
- Other



Education & Outreach

The City of Charleston participated in the NRPA's Parks for Pollinators Bio Blitz event at multiple locations. These events for the City were focused on assessment of pollinators and possible host plants. KCB and the City of Charleston also hosted volunteer groups in multiple park locations to complete counts and surveys of pollinators. The park location with the lowest count, received new native pollinator plants. Social media was also used to spread awareness about the importance of pollinator-friendly habitat creation, and the importance of and conservation of pollinator species.

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

2

How many people attended those events (in total)?

27

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

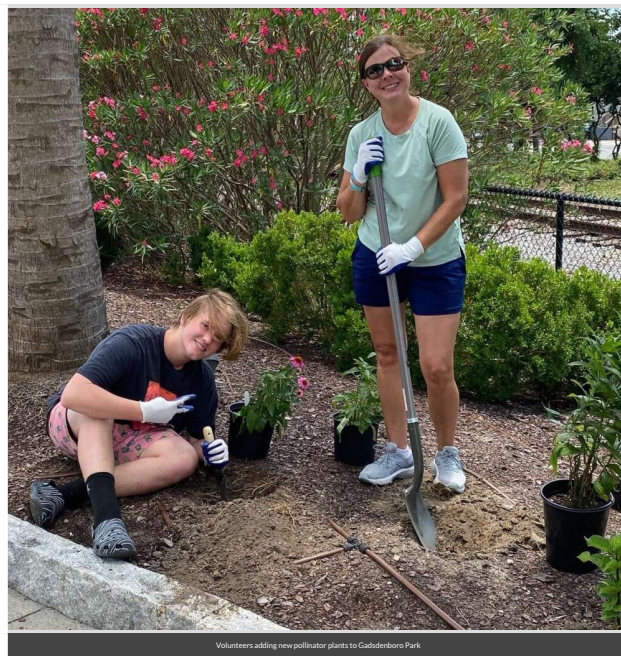
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*Did your city council/county commission (highest elected body) issue a proclamation for National Pollinator Week last summer?
Please note: this is now an optional activity.*

- No



Tabling Setup for Parks for Pollinators Bio Blitz in Hampton Park



Volunteers adding new pollinator plants to Gadsdenboro Park



Volunteers completing a pollinator assessment survey in one of the City Parks.

Policies & Practices

The City is currently still working on its IPM to make it a version that can be disseminated publicly. The City does not use broad applications, but instead used targeted pest management applications. Plants purchased for new pollinator gardens and rain gardens came from a source that does not use neonicotinoids.

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

- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids
- 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.

Yes – still in progress. Continual education/awareness done through social media messaging. Done on a broad scale, not yet targeted to specific sectors of industry.

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

Unknown.

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 City is currently working on bringing stakeholders together to help formulate the IPM and identify goals/plans to better it. We have looked at examples formulated by other Cities and will utilize these in the process.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.charleston-sc.gov/2621/Pollinator-Plants-for-the-Southeast-Regi>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://www.charleston-sc.gov/2621/Pollinator-Plants-for-the-Southeast-Regi>

Learn More

KeepCharlestonBeautiful.org

Gillettej@Charleston-sc.gov