

# Bee City USA - Denton

Report on 2022

## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Through our Denton Sustainable Schools program, we provided materials and physical support to Strickland Middle School as they installed two native wildflower gardens and two native wildflower raised beds. We are promoting this among the other schools in our program to encourage more to work with us on projects similar to these. University of North Texas Bird Campus and Bee Campus committees have held a number of habitat installation and enhancement workdays this year. Multiple events have involved the creation and expansion of native pollinator beds. They recently planted native perennials and installed a water feature along a section of their community garden. For Texas Arbor Day, our Parks and Recreation department held a native tree planting event at a local park with help from volunteers. Texas Woman's University students receive extra credit to volunteer their time to maintain two native butterfly gardens on campus. Maintenance days include the installation of new plants as well as removal of invasive species. On a broader scale, we have also created an SOP this year for the removal of Chinese Privet in public spaces. Areas of removal will be replaced by native plantings. Our Wildflower Program, which has identified over 230 acres for native plantings in rights of way and other public spaces, has continued this year with the addition of three new native wildflower seeding areas: Medians on Windsor Drive, west of Bonnie Brae Road; Audra Open Space on the east side of Audra Lane, north of McKinney Street and Evers Park baseball fields; corner of Bell Place and Robertson Street, between Dallas Drive and the railroad bridge.

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

5

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

50000

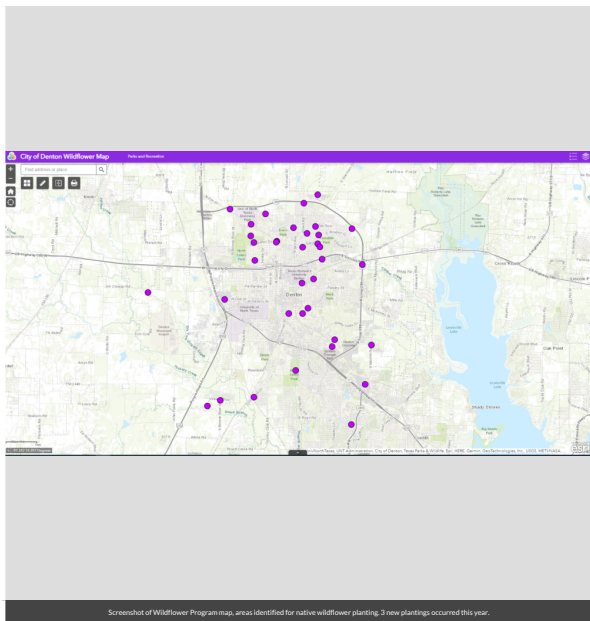
*How many volunteers helped with those projects?*

40

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

- Flower garden
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Roadside/rights of way planting

- School garden





**Central Campus**  
**Pollinator Garden Planting Day**

**When:**  
 October 8th, 9 am

**Where:**  
 Lot 1, near the Hurley Administration Building

**Wear clothes you can get dirty.**

**Contact:**  
 BrandRichter@my.UNT.edu for any questions



University of North Texas campus pollinator planting event



## Education & Outreach

In spring, we co-coordinated the Redbud Festival and hosted Rooted In for a workshop on Butterfly Gardening. We also had tree care and container gardening classes and hosted vendor Painted Flower Farm to sell native, pollinator-friendly plants. Over the summer, we hosted our partner Rooted In for a class on Bullet Proof Plants focusing on drought tolerant native plants that can survive the intense summer heat and are beneficial to pollinators. This fall, we held a class called Monarch Madness at Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center this fall. At the class, we taught attendees about the Monarch Butterfly, went for a hike to observe pollinators, and created over 100 native wildflower seed bombs that participants took home with them. At National Night Out this fall, we created a demonstration native wildflower raised bed planter that drew in hundreds of visitors. We answered questions and provided information on how to create native landscapes in your yard.

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

4

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

1083

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



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 with our demonstration native wildflower planter at National Night Out



Families make native wildflower seed bombs at our Monarch Madness class

keep denton beautiful *presents*

**THE** Redbud FESTIVAL *2022*

Saturday, April 23 | 10am-2pm  
Denton Civic Center & Quakertown Park

**Event Day Schedule**

**10 a.m.**

- Butterfly Gardening (Meeting Room 2)
- Wildlife on the Move (Community Room)
- Free Yoga with Denton Parks and Rec (Quakertown Park)

**10:30 a.m.**

- Live Music - Trotline (Main Stage)

**11 a.m.**

- Story Time with Denton Library (Community Room)

**11:30 a.m.**

- Earth Day Ceremony with Council (Quakertown Park)
- Children's Tree Care Class (The Nook)

**Noon**

- Thistle Creative Reuse Runway Show (Main Stage)
- Container Gardening (Meeting Room 2)

**1 p.m.**

- Tree Care Class (Community Room)
- Live Music - Denton Tarantinos (Main Stage)

**1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.**

- Tree Care Classes (Community Room)

For more information visit [www.dentonparks.com](http://www.dentonparks.com).

Schedule of events at our annual Redbud Festival

## Policies & Practices

Since the adoption of an updated version of its Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM), the City of Denton has been working to initiate IPM practices throughout its parks and open spaces. The mission of this policy is “to manage pests that are harmful to the health, function or aesthetic value of City landscapes and public health in a manner that is efficient, effective, environmentally-responsible, and with careful attention to the safety of the public and department employees.” Currently, IPM practices are under way at 3 parks: Denia, Avondale, and Mack Park, with further sites identified for 2023. We continue to implement our Sustainability Framework, which supports planting for pollinators and the Bee City USA program as part of the Resiliency and Public Health strategy.

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
- Restricted pesticides used to organic pesticides on city or campus grounds
- Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides 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 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, we are pursuing National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat certification, which includes promoting sustainable landscaping practices. So far, we have motivated 119 homeowners, schools, and businesses to certify their habitats, all of which must follow sustainable practices, such as no pesticide use, invasive species removal, and water conservation. We promote this program regularly and are incentivizing residents to certify by offering free yard signs and habitat support (native seeds, tools, etc.). Our goal is to reach 400 certified habitats throughout the city, and we will continue to frequently promote sustainable landscaping practices as part of the program.

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

Our Integrated Pest Management Plan is currently in the pilot phase, taking place in three parks. Our Development Code has provisions for Environmentally Sensitive Areas, which include riparian areas, water-related habitats, floodplains, and Cross Timbers upland habitats. These areas have strict restrictions on the types of activities that can occur within these zones and require disturbed areas to be replaced with native vegetative cover.

*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?*

We have an IPM focus group comprised of both Parks and Rec. staff and community leaders with expertise in this area (Master Gardeners, Naturalists).

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

[https://www.cityofdenton.com/en-us/all-departments/quality-of-life/parks-recreation-\(1\)/initiatives](https://www.cityofdenton.com/en-us/all-departments/quality-of-life/parks-recreation-(1)/initiatives)

Recommended Native Plant List:



## Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:



Description of evaluation and stakeholder group for IPM plan

[Learn More](#)



Two members of our committee at National Night Out with the native wildflower demonstration planter