

Bee City USA - Elm Grove

Report on 2022

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

As previously stated, our group worked with two Boy Scout Eagle Projects. One involved the install and maintenance of an 800 sq foot native rain garden with 17 varieties over 500 plants. The other was the building and placement of a Bee Hotel with information on our village website along with newspaper articles to highlight it. The group also met frequently to help maintain two Monarch Waystations installed 3 years ago in our 70 acres village park. Our Invasive Species Task Force (ISTF) was started August of 2020 and continues to meet weekly (weather dependent) for one hour each Sunday to eradicate invasive species within our village common areas. With the help of our village forester and Junior Guild, Grazing Goats LLC was brought in twice to help eradicate a large stand of buckthorn within the community and will be returning in the spring to work in another area.

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

2

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

1000

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

25

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

- Flower garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Rain garden/bioswale



A photo of the group after our rain garden planting



Work on rain garden preparation

Education & Outreach

1. Our committee planned a fall native tree sale selling 9 varieties and 70 in total, with 3 varieties of keystone oak trees. 2. Our committee planned a spring native shrub sale selling 6 varieties of native shrubs, 150 in total. 3. Our committee held an early summer native plant sale selling a total of 556 perennials with 33 different varieties, all raised locally while assuring no neonicotinoid use in the growing. 4. Our group helping organize two Eagle Scout projects—one was a Bee Hotel and the other was a native plant rain garden. 5. Our group planned an Earth and Arbor Day celebration that >100 people attended with >20 local vendors including a local chapter of Wild Ones, LLC. 6. We hosted the University of Madison's Gratton lab graduate student to give a presentation and demonstration of the WIBee app. 7. Our group organized members of the community to meet every Sunday at 11am for one hour to work on eradication of invasive species within our community. 8. We hosted and encouraged participation in No Mow May, making yard signs that homeowners could display which we collected to be used again the following May. Our goal was to at least match the percentage of homeowners who partook in the event in the city of Appleton, WI, where Professor Del Toro performed the bee research bringing attention to the movement—and we doubled our goal! 9. Most recently, our largest undertaking was to make our

community the first National Wildlife Federation Community Habitat in the state of Wisconsin. A large part of our motivation for this project was the fact that the program encouraged of planting of native species, eradication of invasive species, and the use of sustainable practices. Citing the importance of the federally endangered Rusty-patched bumblebee as motivation for our efforts was critical in our success.

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

7

How many people attended those events (in total)?

100

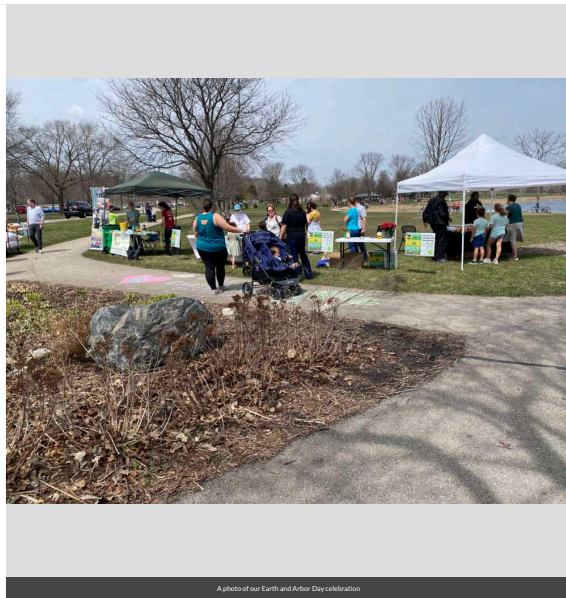
How many Bee City USA logo street signs have you installed to date (in total)?

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



Policies & Practices

Assured and then promoted that all of the native plant sale plants were neonicotinoid free. Made a point of promoting that

no *Aquilegia canadensis* would be available for that reason. Of note, this year's plant sale order now has *Aquilegia* because our plant source has changed their practice!

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

- Implemented or maintained a written IPM plan
- 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.

In conjunction with our native plant sale, we sold Mosquito Dunks and hay with instructions for how to assemble and use in backyards to help minimize pesticide use for mosquito control. It was a huge success and we went on to have a second sale. We reached out to local mosquito sprayers who are trialing our product for subsequent business use. The idea was from a talk given by Professor Doug Tallamy, an entomologist from the University of Delaware.

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

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?

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [Pollinator Protection Program 6-28-21.pdf](#)

<https://elmgrovi.org/DocumentCenter/View/3962/Pollinator-Protection-Program-6-28-21>

Recommended Native Plant List: [Native plant list for Bee City.pdf](#)

<https://elmgrovi.org/DocumentCenter/View/3363/Native-Plant-List>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Native plant supplier for Bee City.pdf](#)

<https://elmgrovi.org/DocumentCenter/View/3364/Native-Plant-Supplier-List?bidId=>

Learn More

<https://elmgrovi.org/294/Beautification-Committee>

EGBeautification@gmail.com