

Bee City USA - Pine Lake

Report on 2022

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

In March, SEED and volunteers finished installing the Beach House Medicine and Herb Garden, a quarter-acre garden with native perennials and herbs sourced from local nurseries. The city also purchased a half-acre plot of land at the corner of Rockbridge Road and Poplar Road, with plans to install a native meadow on the property in 2023. SEED volunteers continued maintenance on the Milkweed Nursery, which is designed to provide habitat for Monarchs and give residents a place to harvest milkweed seeds for their own yards. SEED also continued maintenance on the FoodWell Public Orchard, which sadly suffered great losses in the 100-year freeze event in December 2022. The remaining fig and pomegranate trees will continue to be maintained in 2023, and new flowering fruit trees will replace those that were lost. The Public Works Monarch Garden, which supplies native flowering perennials for pollinators, and the McAlistaire Meadow continue to be maintained as well. SEED also hosted a volunteer event in July to remove air potatoes from the trail circling the Eastern Wetlands.

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

7

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

40000

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

100

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

- Flower garden
- Orchard
- Meadow
- Herb garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement

Education & Outreach

The Pine Lake Stewards of Environmental Education and Design (SEED) started in March 2022 by sponsoring a tour of the Eastern Wetlands with naturalist Kathryn Kolb of EcoAddendum, who focused on educating attendees about native and edible/forgeable species contained within. Next, SEED and the Municipal Arts Panel held our annual Pollination Celebration festival, where vendors and environmental outreach organizations had the opportunity to enrich public knowledge about the importance of pollinators. At this event, City Councilmember Brandy Hall also provided an educational tour of the newly installed Beach House Medicine and Herb Garden. In August, we participated in the Great Georgia Pollinator Census by hosting an informational event where two volunteers from SEED trained residents to complete a count in their own backyard or at various points throughout the city.

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)?

300

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

1

Policies & Practices

The City of Pine Lake hired a completely new Public Works team in November 2022 and is using guidelines provided by the Xeres Society to write guidelines for city maintenance to follow.

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

- **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)**
- **Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied**
- **Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides on city or campus grounds**
- **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>)**
- **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>)

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 City of Pine Lake looks forward to providing public policy that provides suggested guidelines for residents.

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

Pine Lake is enthusiastic about it's upcoming policy initiatives for 2023.

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:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

Learn More