

# Bee City USA - Rome

Report on 2022



## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Bee City – Rome identified a new site for a flower pollinator plot at the end of 2022 to prepare for spring 2023. The committee is excited to designate this area as a Bee City pollinator plot due to its location and how it already grows clover & dandelions. This is one more additional area that will be visible in our city for people to see the beauty and benefit of pollinator habitat. We will add Bee City signage to it this year.

*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?*

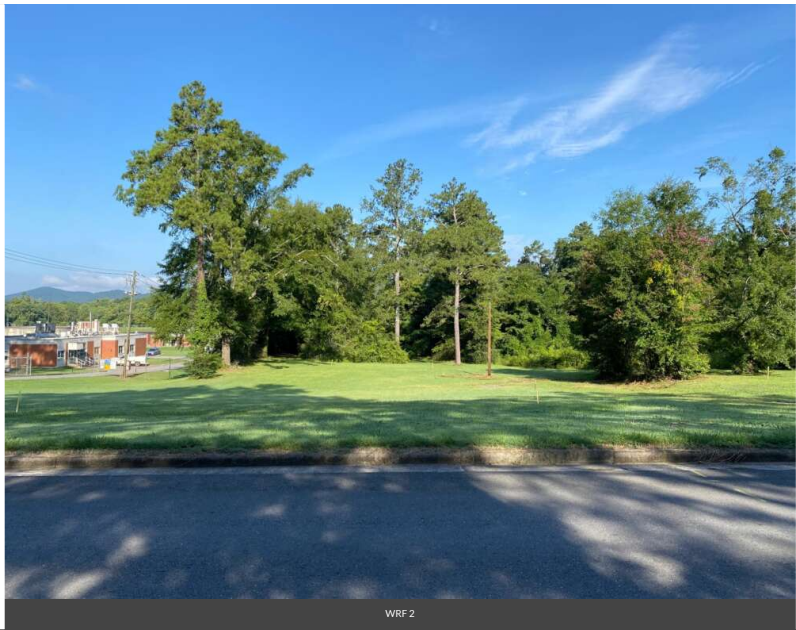
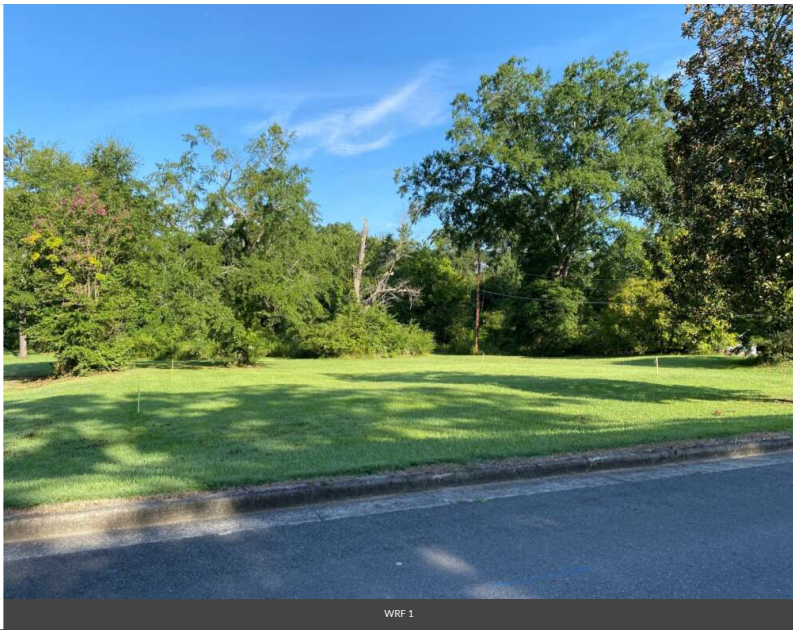
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*How many volunteers helped with those projects?*

24

*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
- Meadow
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Roadside/rights of way planting



## Education & Outreach

Bee City – Rome hosted 4 events: 1. April 2022 – Cemetery Wildflower Plots: created 3 plots at a church & cemetery entrance with a group from Berry College. Goal was to bring pollinator awareness to a neglected area in a community that is creating positive changes. 2. June 2022 – Bee Fest: annual pollinator celebration at the community farmer's market with observation hive demonstrations, native plant nursery representation and info, kid craft, etc. 3. June 2022 – Pollinator Story Time: children's story time at the library focused on pollinators and bees. Included local beekeepers, teachers, and gardeners to act out stories and provide information to families. 4. October 2022 – Chiaha Arts Festival: booth set-up with pollinator garden information, demonstration hive, native plant examples, etc.

*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)?*

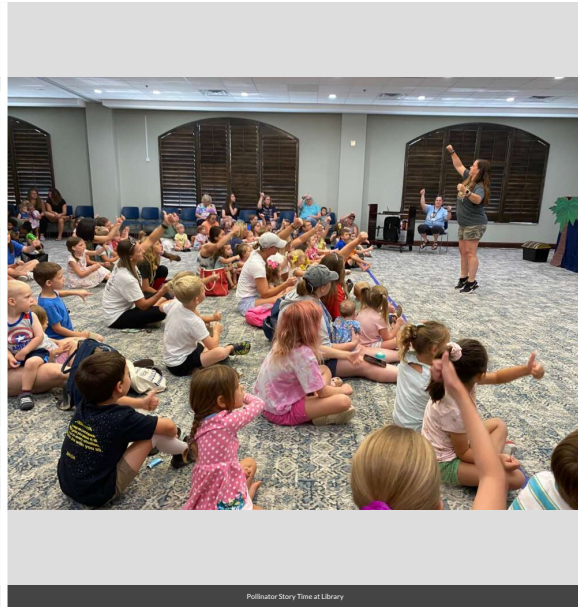
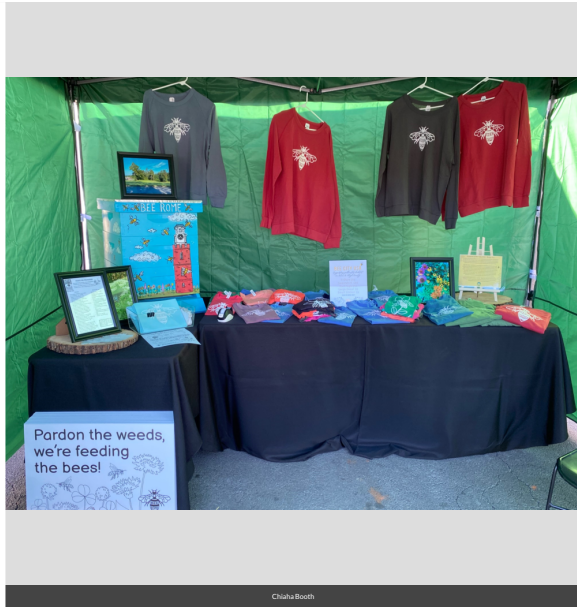
**300**

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

**3**

*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

This has been the most challenging portion of Bee City – Rome due to ongoing discussions and education with city officials. Bee City – Rome is striving to make informational materials more readily available to the public and including pollinator-friendly pest management actions in more conversations. Changing policy is difficult and takes time within municipalities. The first step for us right now is to bring awareness and education to those in charge. The next step will be to aid them in finding cost-effective pollinator-friendly methods to replace current ones. It is an ongoing effort that we are committed to in order to fully embody the Bee City USA mission, but we are not there yet.

*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)
- 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.*

**See above.**

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

**See above.**

*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?*

**Just now beginning to look into more training availability.**

**Integrated Pest Management Plan:**

<https://extension.uga.edu/programs-services/integrated-pest-management/publications/handbooks.html>

**Recommended Native Plant List:**

**Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:**

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Learn More

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