

# Bee City USA - Rowlett

Report on 2022



## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

1. The Shrade Blue-Bonnet Park Pollinator Garden was created by the collaboration of Rowlett Parks and Recreations, Neighborhood Planning and Keep Rowlett Beautiful that was installed and maintained by the City Park and Recreation Team. There was a ribbon cutting ceremony to symbolize a milestone for the city that makes a step forward to becoming leaders and advocates for the worldwide initiatives of pollinator habitat preservations and creation to help pollinators thrive. The committee hosted this event. 2. The pollinator garden at the Coyle house/Pecan Grove Park near the Rowlett Recreation center was continually maintained and enhanced by the Keep Rowlett Beautiful team, this garden is full of pollinator activities that attracts many residents who walk by the Pecan Grove Park. It is a great place to engaged and educate residents about Pollinators and pollinator gardens. 3. The pollinator garden at the environmental center is maintained by the Keep Rowlett Beautiful team.

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

3

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

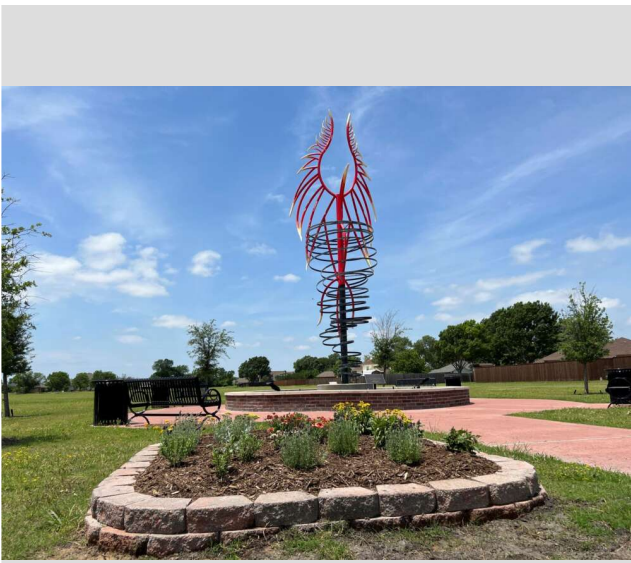
1000

*How many volunteers helped with those projects?*

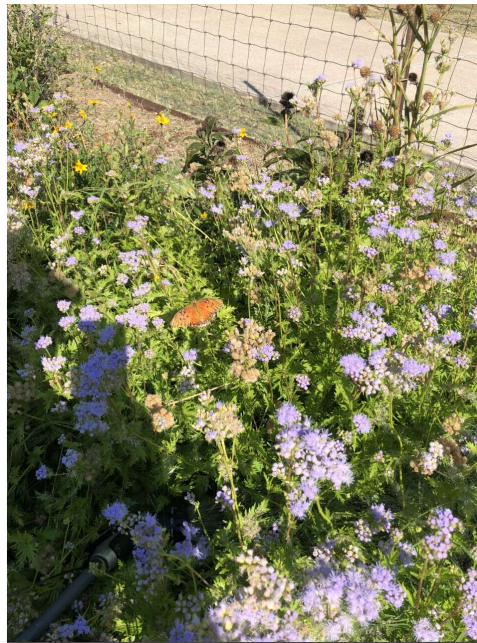
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*Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance last year with pollinator benefit in mind.*

- Flower garden
- Meadow
- Herb garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting



Schrade Bluebonnet Park Pollinator Garden



Pollinator activities at Coyle House/Pecan Grove Park Pollinator Garden



Beautiful Decoration at Pollinator Garden

## Education & Outreach

The Rowlett Bee City committee actively promoted Bee City in all the following events: (i) Earth Day – annual celebration creating awareness on healthy environment hosted by Keep Rowlett Beautiful, brought over 30 vendors and over 500 participants. We celebrated the Rowlett Annual Bee City with booths that showcase Bee City and educate the public about the importance of bees and pollinators using a pollinator trunk and getting interested residents to sign up for further information related to pollinators and pollinator gardening. (ii) Tri-City Neighborhood Summit – hosted by City of Rowlett, Plano & Garland. Cindy Ling (Bee City Committee) presented a workshop to bring awareness of the importance of pollinators and How to Create a Pollinator Habitat at home, to help pollinators thrive. Also, the role of Bee City USA, and that City of Rowlett (in collaboration with Keep Rowlett Beautiful) is now a member of Bee City USA. 103 participants. (iii) Schrade Bluebonnet Park Pollinator Garden Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – celebrating the first pollinator garden created by the city, hosted by Rowlett Neighborhood Planning and The Rowlett Parks and Recreation Department. Tara Bradley, Liliana Morejon, Cindy Ling (Bee City Committee members) and the director of Park & Recreation, share the importance of Bees and Pollinators, creating pollinator friendly habitats around open space/urban areas. And the commitment of the city to support Bee City and helping pollinators thrive. 40 attendees. The committee hosted this event.

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

3

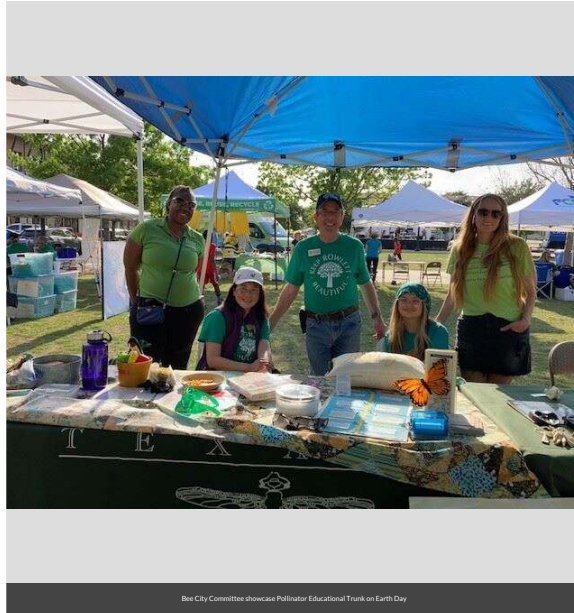
*How many people attended those events (in total)?*

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

Implemented a written IPM. Created Native Plant and Suppliers Lists for pollinator habitat creation. The City of Rowlett incorporates multiple practices to help minimize potential negative environmental and human impact from pesticide exposure, while providing effective pest control management. Our approach consists of no mowing of protected areas until the appropriate time of the season (i.e., inactive growth). Education of internal staff and the public via signage/ad campaigns. When feasible it is highly recommended to use organic herbicide/insecticide when in proximity to the pollinator gardens. As a city, we commit to more of a targeted approach when it comes to the treatment of pests and weeds; chemical intervention is a last-course resolution. Per Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) policy applications will be performed when windspeeds are 10 mph or less, which will help further lower the chance of particle drift entering the waterways or undesired locations. Interdepartmental discussions are occurring to ensure consistency across all city

departments.

*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.*

We currently have a Texas Smart Yard/Rowlett Smart Yard program which is a program to reward residents who apply environmentally friendly landscaping practices. This program incorporates the principles of healthy pollinator habitats, which include using native plants that are pesticide free, water conservations, effective soil and mulch management, minimized or eliminating the use of pesticides. Our goal is to create awareness and to encourage Rowlett citizens to create pollinator friendly gardens at home and to practice pollinator friendly gardening habits. One home at a time. The Neighborhood Planning team recognized a mother and son duo for their extraordinary efforts in building pollinator friendly habitats. They are also one of the winners of the Texas Smart Yard program.

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

New Development: The Neighborhood Planning team makes comments during the development review process suggesting to developers of new projects to consider adding pollinator habitats to their projects.

*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?*

Some Bee City Committee members took IPM education classes taught by Texas A&M through Texas Master Gardeners. A handful of Rowlett Parks & Recreation staff members currently hold a non-commercial political pesticide applicator license. To maintain current non-commercial political pesticide applicator licensing, they must obtain (5) CEU's a year. The training topics range from pesticide factors, safety, laws, regulations and IPM. The Parks & Recreation Department is working on having general staff training related to Integrated Pest Management knowledge and other educational materials to help staff understand pest management control practices.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [Rowlett IMP PLAN\\_Final.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [Rowlett Bee City Plant List Only Dec 2022.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Native Plant Suppliers List - North Texas.pdf](#)



Learn More

<https://www.rowlettx.gov/1947/Bee-City-USA>

[cindyhome777@hotmail.com](mailto:cindyhome777@hotmail.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/RowlettNeighborhoodPlanning>



