

# Bee City USA - Salisbury

Report on 2022



## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Partnered with several organizations such as the Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake to create pollinator gardens across many congregations in the municipality. Completed grant for river walk edible garden. Published a pocket pollinator meadow registration window for local residents to take advantage of a recent municipal code amendment to allow people to maintain native grasses and wildflowers. This registration fully fleshes out their responsibilities and keeps track of their information. Through this program, locals are able to restore the fragmented ecology that local pollinators suffer from. All these initiatives promote the planting of milkweed. Collaboration with organizations to secure grants and restore local ecology has included the removal of invasive species such as Japanese Wisteria. In such improvement areas, native trees such as cedar, cypress, and dogwood. Several bioswales have been installed and more are on the way, particularly the filterra biofiltration system. Lastly Salisbury University has adopted several community gardens, some on campus and some closeby, the local Youth Environmental Action Summit has started a boundless community garden initiative.

*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?*

*How many volunteers helped with those projects?*

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

- Flower garden
- Vegetable garden
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- 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
- School garden



Pictured is what looks like a typical stormwater runoff drain but is instead a filterra system which uses biologic processes to collect the nutrient runoff into the soil, this enhances the surrounding system which has many native shrubs and pollinator friendly trees.



The second image is the Salisbury Green Team in early 2022 helping out with the downtown edible community garden.

## Education & Outreach

City of Salisbury's "Hello Spring" provided pollinator seed packets and taught youth how to make flower plantings with the local university. Salisbury University's (SU's) "I Love Salisbury" supported a University initiative named "Bee-N-B's" which planted native wildflowers in residents' gardens, provided water sources, and promoted through educational pamphlets the best practices to protect native pollinators, such as non-harmful use of natural pesticides, creating shelter for wild bees, etc. More than 300 students were involved in the planting of the flower plantings during the I Love Salisbury event day, April 17, 2022. City of Salisbury's "Pollinator Day" educated locals about pollinators at the local zoo and brought out bee keepers and gardeners. City of Salisbury's "Weird Science" in collaboration with local student environmental organization and several non-profits such as Lower Shore Land Trust, farmers markets such as Coops to Coop, and governmental organizations such as MD department of natural resources, educated the public on local pollinators, taught basic ecology, stewardship, and alternative uses of typical plants found in every day yards.

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

4

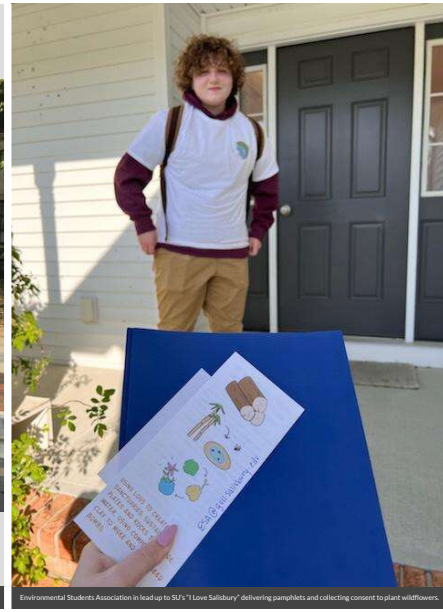
*How many people attended those events (in total)?*

*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

The City advocates for the use of pollinator-friendly pest management. Field operations is generally instructed to do targeted spraying only when necessary. Otherwise, parks are managed with a policy of pulling and mowing. Our non-profit partners are encouraged to practice the same, and from our observance, do so.

*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

*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.*



Salisbury University's environmental organizations have promoted the use of natural pesticides.

*In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?*  
Currently drafting a comprehensive plan that will attempt to incorporate best management practices.

*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 of the organizations which the city has cooperated with to improve our public spaces operate with IMPs. Their methodology is typically manual hand pulling and pruning with targeted minimum spraying. One of these organizations, Lower Shore Land Trust, is involving city employees on training in a grant to restore a park. This training is about weed management and IMP.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

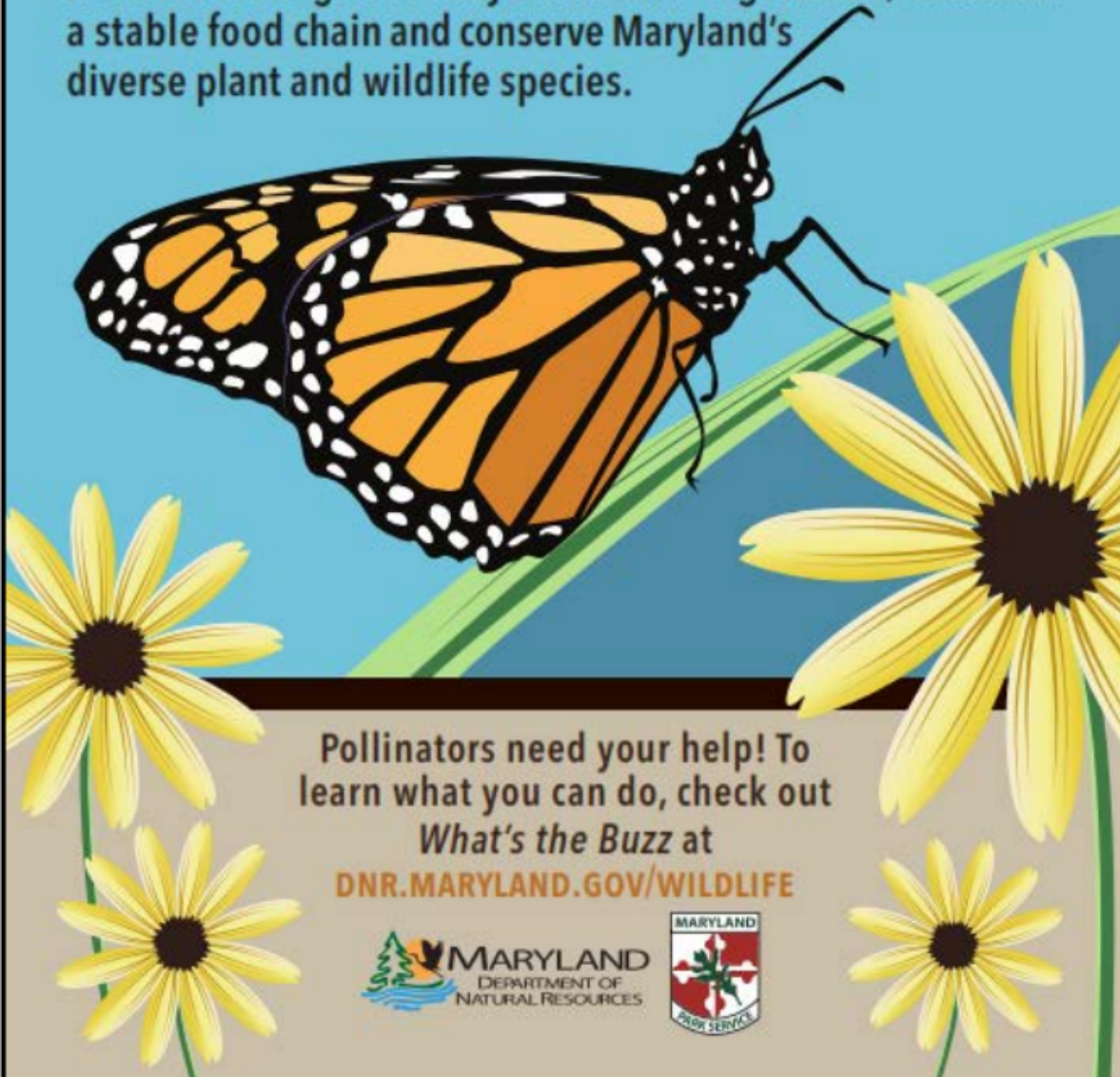
<https://salisbury.md/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Native-Plants-for-Pollinators-..pdf>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://mdflora.org/nurseries.html>

# NO MOW ZONE

To address the serious decline in pollinator species, this area is being maintained in a natural state. Native flowers and grasses provide nectar, pollen and habitat for bees, butterflies and caterpillars. Healthy pollinator populations are needed to grow many fruits and vegetables, maintain a stable food chain and conserve Maryland's diverse plant and wildlife species.



Pollinators need your help! To learn what you can do, check out *What's the Buzz at*

[DNR.MARYLAND.GOV/WILDLIFE](http://DNR.MARYLAND.GOV/WILDLIFE)



Shown is the no mow zone graphic made by the DNR to promote natural ecology. These guiding principles have been practiced case-by-case and similar policy will be attempted to be incorporated into the environmental plan for Salisbury.

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Learn More

<https://salisbury.md/>

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

[https://www.instagram.com/sby\\_green](https://www.instagram.com/sby_green)



In-person meeting of members and public attendees to the Salisbury Green Team, May 2022.