Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Pollinator habitat events happened every week of the year, with an additional work day, for a total of 53 events. In total, 1044 volunteers participated in the park work days, with an average of 19 volunteers per Saturday. The park work days are coordinated by Friends of Seaside Parks Association and the Environmental Commission, with frequent collaborations with Sustainable Seaside. Additionally, the pollinator habitats have benefitted from over $30,500 from grants and partners funding purchase of plants, a GrizzlyCorps Fellow, Resource Conservation District of Monterey County technical support, and more. This year three students from the International School of Monterey worked a total of 15 hours each over five Saturday park work days as part of their service project requirement. The school hosts a Project Showcase and the students prepare a short speech on their experience accompanied by a poster board.

How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance last year?
11

How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?
42000

How many volunteers helped with those projects?
1044

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
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Rain garden/bioswale
Education & Outreach

Every Saturday in Seaside parks, from 10a–12p, volunteers meet to enhance and create new pollinator habitats. These are the most active volunteer events, with 19 participants on average. The Environmental Commission established a collaboration with the Blue Zones Project of Monterey County, with the following co-hosted events happening during the regularly scheduled Saturday park work days: January – Durant Park Clean Up & Walking Moai Launch (Laguna Grande) February – Havana Soliz Park Clean Up & Walking Moai Launch March – Hiking Moai Launch (Upper Seaside), Walking Moai Launch (Roberts Lake), Capra Park Clean Up April – Havana Soliz Park Clean Up Up May – Farallones Park Clean Up, Walk for Health Event (Laguna Grande) June – Walking Moai Launch (Upper Parks), Beta Park Clean Up July – Farallones Park Clean Up & Let’s Get Moving (Fun Run) August – Walking Moai Launch (Laguna Grande) September – Farallones Park Clean Up & Stevenson Day of Service at Lincoln Cunningham November – Lincoln Cunningham Park Clean Up & National Take a Hike Event December – Lincoln Cunningham Park Clean Up Additionally, a member from the Environmental Commission attended the outreach workshop at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History. Lastly, at least two Environmental Commission members and the staff liaison were regular volunteers at the Saturday park work days, with one commissioner being an integral leader of the pollinator habitat creation and education to volunteers.

How many pollinator-related events did your affiliate host or help with last year (in total)?
56

How many people attended those events (in total)?
1044

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.
Policies & Practices

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)
- Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds
- Dropped pesticide use altogether 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.

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:

Recommended Native Plant List: Form Based Code.pdf

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5c64a6c2e4afe971f7f7c12/t/60217f2a5e1b3f7778d0a044/1612807985574/2021.02.08_RANA_Availability_Full_List_wprices.pdf

Learn More

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https://www.facebook.com/SeasideCreates
Pollinator outreach by the Environmental Commission