Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

The City of Shelby was directly involved with three separate pollinator events. With cooperation of the FFA and Shelby City Schools, a thirteen-acre pollinator field was planted at Shelby Reservoir Two. At the direction of the FFA Instructor, students broadcasted the bee and butterfly seed mix on to the prepared soil. Throughout the growing season, the city's Service Department, maintained the first year seed legacy growth by mowing the field to the recommended height of twelve inches. A land lease agreement was entered with a local Bee Keeper to manage Bee hives at the city owned Waste Water Treatment Plant. Throughout the active season, the Bee Keeper managed twelve hives. The hives produced 84 pounds of honey. The Bee Keeper sells the honey at a local store on Main Street. Each year as spring arrives, the Parks Department in partnership with our local volunteer team of "flower girls," plant native and flowering plants within the community parks. The flowers provide both visual beauty as well as resources for our pollinators. The City's Shade Tree Commission planted four trees in the city and one tree during an Arbor Day celebration. Additionally, ten trees were added to Main Street as part of the City's Street Scape project.

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?

805860

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

50

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 pollinator-friendly tree planting
- School garden
- Other
Education & Outreach

As the City began the vision to develop city owned property into a pollinating field, the public discussion was held under the Utilities and Streets Committee meeting since the Water enterprising fund controlled the property. Numerous public meetings occurred to disclose the location, acreage, reasonings for the quest and how the Bee and Butterfly Habitat Fund would provide the seed mix the field. Several local newspaper articles printed the meeting notes to educate the community residents on the vision to become a Bee City and how a pollinating field would help achieve the quest. The printed articles did an excellent job of providing the community with the details for turning a thirteen-acre grassy lot (that was being mowed) into a pollinating field that would help sustain bees and butterfly’s, especially the monarch butterfly. The community was provided with the necessary steps to plan and design the field, from the first year recommendation from the Bee and Butterfly Habitat Fund to provide the ground with a boost of natural nitrogen from soybeans, to the
incorporation of the chosen pollinating seed mix that was designed from the soil analysis provided by the County Soil and Water Conservation District. With the inception of the pollinating field, the host committee going forward will be the Public Works Committee. The first public meeting under the new committee is being planned for the April meeting in 2023.

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)?

75

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

The City of Shelby practices non-pesticide management of natural pests through the City Health Department as well as our code enforcement. The city hired a part time enforcement officer last year that is working with residents and businesses to clean up areas that are prone to problem insect proliferation in an effort to utilize less pesticides that are harmful to our pollinating population. Additionally, our health department utilizes social media as well as their website to educate the citizens about the benefits of limiting habitats for mosquitos and other pests to breed. The health department hosts a city-wide clean up in the spring to help people get rid of yard waste, tires and trash that could be creating these environments all in an effort to reduce the need for and use of chemicals that are harmful to our pollinators. In the parks and city properties, pollinator fields are not managed with chemicals so they remain safe for the pollinators that they were planted for as well as for residents who are walking and enjoying the plants and flowers. The Parks department uses discretion and only sprays when absolutely necessary and only in very select areas. They allow dandelions and other plants to grow. They look for ways to avoid drift and runoff when they do have to utilize these measures, including following all label instructions and only when weather conditions are optimal.
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)
- Implemented non-chemical pest prevention and management methods on city or campus grounds

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.
Yes, the health department continues to educate the public in an effort to reduce habitats for problem insects. The Parks Department is partnering with shade tree and others to further educate themselves on native species and ways to maintain habitats for pollinators and limiting the use of pesticides to only essential use, only when necessary. We will continue efforts to naturally clean up pest habitats and educate the community about the use of pesticides and their effects on our pollinating friends! We will include educational information in our business email that reaches 170+ of our community and business leaders. We will make add information to our website and promote it during pollinator week.

In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?
Yes, at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, a new mosquito spraying procedure has been implemented to protect the twelve-bee hives from being harmed from the pesticides. The operators of the sprayer take distance and wind direction into account when applying the pesticide.

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?
We have two licensed certified pesticide applicators.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [City of Shelby Integrated Pest Management Plan 2023.docx](#)

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Native Plant Suppliers 2023.pdf](#)
Learn More

JohnEnsman@ShelbyCity.oh.us
Main Street plants and trees