

Bee City USA - Village of Port Barrington

Report on 2022



Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

2022 was a busy year in Port Barrington for pollinator habitat expansion and enhancement. A native, blooming bioswale was extended in Pregenzer Beach Park. Nichol's Park and Friendship Park shorelines had plugs added. Hermann Park Pond had invasive plants cleared from the shoreline and pollinator-friendly trees, shrubs and plants are being planted to replace them. Over-seeding with pollinator friendly plants in all these areas was done as well.

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

7

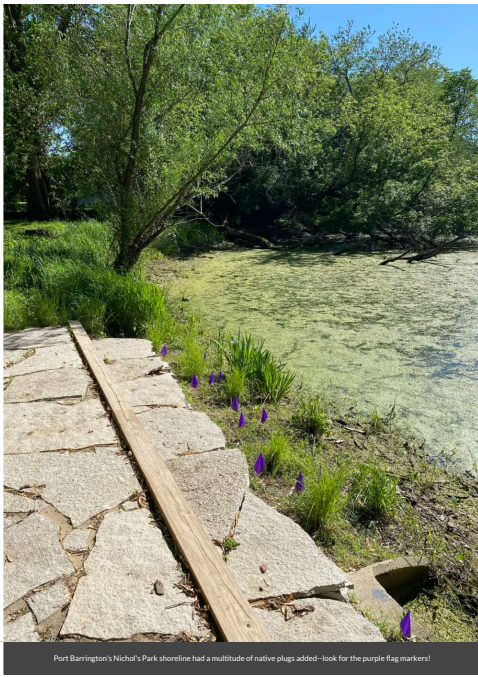
How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

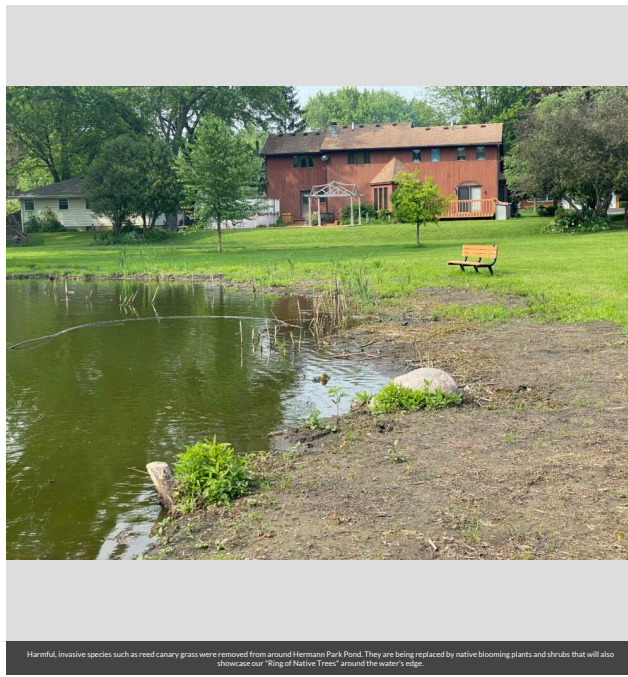
15

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

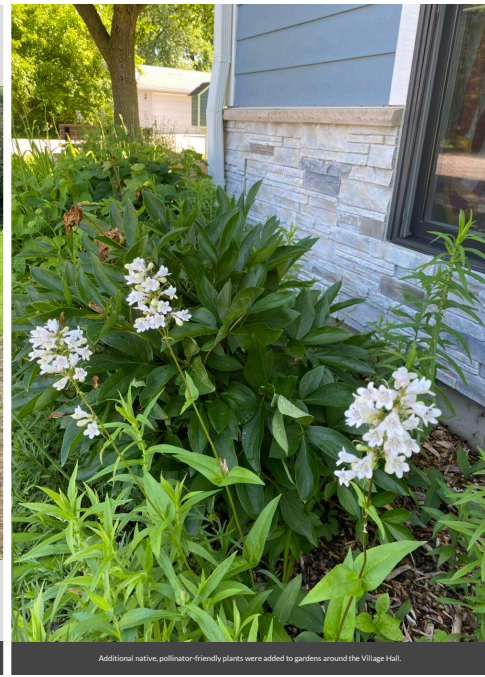
- Flower garden
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Rain garden/bioswale



Port Barrington's Nichol's Park shoreline had a multitude of native plugs added--look for the purple flag markers!



Harmful, invasive species such as reed canary grass were removed from around Herrmann Park Pond. They are being replaced by native blooming plants and shrubs that will also showcase our "Ring of Native Trees" around the water's edge.



Additional native, pollinator-friendly plants were added to gardens around the Village Hall.

Education & Outreach

1- Pollinator Week: The Village Board passed a Proclamation in the form of a resolution designating the third week in June every year as our municipality's observance of National Pollinator Week. New books added to our Little Free Library promoting bees and pollinators and a basket of "give-aways" was available in the Village Hall. Items included plastic bees, flyers about our pollinators and lists of pollinator friendly native plants. The basket was located next to our "monarch nursery" where live caterpillars were evolving into butterflies. 2- Movie Night: Our Village REC Committee hosted a Family Outdoor Movie Night showing "Jurassic World". Rubber bees and flyers were distributed picturing a prehistoric bee fossil and explaining bees dating to the mid-Cretaceous period and what the world was like then. The flyer also encouraged the planting of pollinator plants and the reduction of pesticides. 3. RiverFest 2022-Pollinator Gardens Dedication: At the Village of Port Barrington's annual village-wide picnic, RiverFest, the finalized educational pollinator gardens around the Village Hall were dedicated with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Educational signage was patiently awaited and finally installed. Trustees and residents gathered, along with ComEd representative Tom Tumminaro, to officially dedicate 4 gardens showcasing native and pollinator friendly plants, also helping to mitigate and purify parking lot runoff. These gardens were made possible in part through a ComEd / Openlands Green Regions Grant with a focus on Pollinator Conservation.

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)?

150

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

4

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.

- Yes



Books were added to a second Little Free Library in Port Barrington's Fox Trail Park to promote pollinator protection.



Give-away basket made native seeds, planting kit, bee fossil info and plant info available.



Attendees of annual RiverFest celebration enjoy new signage installed in pollinator gardens.

Policies & Practices

Port Barrington Public works does not use any pesticides or herbicides in routine maintenance. No pesticides are used on Village property "lawn" areas. The Village has had the philosophy of minimal pesticide use for quite some time, keeping in line with County and State Department of Agriculture and Health Department recommendations. Park and easement turf grasses are typically not treated with pesticides or fertilizers. River channel weed control was moved from herbicide spray applications to weed cutting years ago. A future goal of the Village of Port Barrington IPM is to further reduce aquatic herbicide use in pond and playground and Village garden maintenance. Being that the Village is a community surrounded by water, mosquitoes remain the biggest challenge in pest control. Over the last couple of decades, the Village has moved

from spraying for adult mosquitos to the use of biological larvicides when thresholds indicate. Education is also a large part of the Village mosquito management program, emphasizing the removal of standing water around the home as potential mosquito habitat and self-protection. Adult mosquito management is relied on only when disease is present in vector populations and is contracted out to Clarke. Other pests are dealt with on an as-needed basis if/when they become a threat to the health, safety and/or the economic well-being of the community. In a community with shallow aquifers, the Village supports policies to govern cautious water protection. There are no-phosphorus, illicit discharge and chemical storage ordinances in place. Also by Ordinance, sections of the Village are under a designated water protection area. These policies, along with a solid Integrated Pest Management Plan, serve as a foundation for a healthier environment for area flora and fauna...and humans! Village Officials continue to search out and implement policies and procedures to ensure the health, safety and the enjoyment of surrounding areas for all.

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.

Educational information about pesticide reduction is on our website, in newsletters, and is distributed at various events, including Xerces Society's "Buying Bee-Safe Plants".

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

The Village of Port Barrington strives to maintain and follow our Integrated Pest Management Plan and to further public education in the reduction of pesticides and herbicides. We continue to strive to reduce pesticide control of mosquitos continuing education with staff and residents regarding the elimination of breeding sites and use of biological control methods.

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?

Training seminars for biological control of mosquito larva are attended by Village employees. Webinars were attended by Village staff for reduction of pesticide use in general.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [IPM Village of Port Barrington.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [Native Plant List.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://illinoisplants.org/native-plant-nurseries/>

HAPPY POLLINATOR WEEK - JUNE 20-26TH



A new species of bee, trapped in amber for about 100 million years. Can you spot the parasitic beetle larvae it carried? Image via George Poinar Jr./ OSU.

This BEE FOSSIL dates to the mid-Cretaceous period. This bee's world was a tropical forest of mostly conifers, ferns, cycads, ginkgo, and horsetails. Angiosperms – flowering plants – were just beginning to diversify, along with the primitive bees that pollinated their flowers. These ancient bees shared traits seen in both modern bees. They've come this far! Let's protect them into the future!

When you are thinking about planting your garden, think about our pollinators! Pollinators like bumble bees, honeybees, dragonflies, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies, hummingbirds, and many others are responsible for the reproduction of almost **ninety percent** of the world's flowering plant species and **one in every three bites of food we consume!** Important tasks for tiny creatures!

Reduce the use of pesticides. Support organically grown produce. Plant native, pollinator-friendly plants. For a plant selection specific to pollinator support in Illinois go to <https://xerces.org/publications/plant-lists/pollinator-plants-midwest-region> You can BEE PROUD of your support of our food chain and enjoy the magic of pollinator species at the same time!

Bee fossil cards were given out at a family movie night encouraging reduction of pesticide use.

Learn More

<http://www.portbarrington.net>
villagehall@portbarrington.net

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=villageofportbarringtonfriendlybynature>



Village Trustees, Bee City USA Committee members and ComEd representative, Tom Tumminaro, gather at the annual village-wide picnic to dedicate native pollinator gardens with a ribbon cutting ceremony.