

Bee City USA - Carlinville

Report on 2023

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Please describe pollinator habitat creation or enhancement projects in your community in 2023, and whether your committee hosted them or not.

This year, with the help of our local Boy Scouts, we were able to create a butterfly friendly pollinator garden at our local historic jail. It is a location that attracts visitors from all around the world and will be a lovely representation of Carlinville's efforts to help protect the pollinators that visit our corner of the world. This project was done in conjunction with local Boy Scout troops, Carlinville Bee City, and the Make Carlinville Beautiful committee. We also began a partnership project with Carlinville Area Hospital to create a sensory garden in an unused area on their property. The hospital gave Bee City access to some large existing berms and allowed us to fill them with pollinator friendly native plants, many of which were transplanted from other local pollinator gardens both public and private. The springtime will bring more concentrated efforts to begin the sensory garden. This garden will be a relaxing space for hospital employees, visitors, and the community at large. It will be filled with beautiful native plants that will be beneficial to our local pollinators.

How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance in 2023?

5

How many people (staff, volunteers, students, partners, etc.) helped with those projects?

30

How many projects benefit monarchs, milkweed, or nectar plantings?

10

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

1050

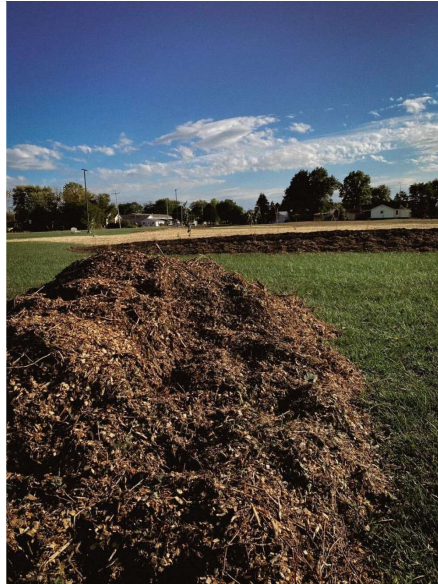
Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance in 2023 with pollinator benefit in mind.

- Flower garden
- Vegetable garden
- Meadow

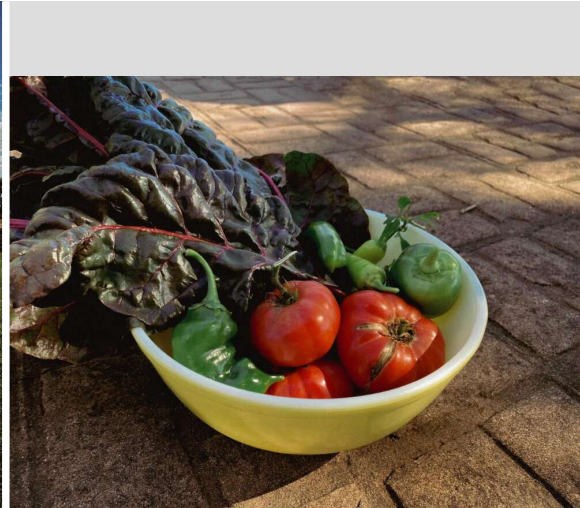
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- School garden



We continue to maintain and grow our existing pollinator habitats around the city of Carlville. (photo credit: Carrie Harris)



The beginning phases of a large pollinator friendly project on the grounds of Carlville Area Hospital. (Photo credit: Carrie Harris)



The fruits of our labors from the pollinator friendly community garden that provides pesticide free fresh produce to anyone in the community. (photo credit: Carrie Harris)

Education & Outreach

Please describe pollinator conservation events or outreach activities in your community in 2023, indicating whether your committee hosted them or not.

2023 was a year of change for the Carlville Bee City team as we underwent leadership changes. Mary Tinder who has served us faithfully since the beginning is turning her focus to other local community projects while still serving as a mentor and liaison for the current team. Her help and knowledge is invaluable to the Bee City team and beyond! Even in the midst of change, the Bee City team was able to continue to expand our efforts in the community. Our existing gardens throughout the community have continued to thrive and grow, while we worked to expand our pollinator friendly gardens locally.

How many pollinator-related events or outreach activities did you host or help with in 2023 (in total)?

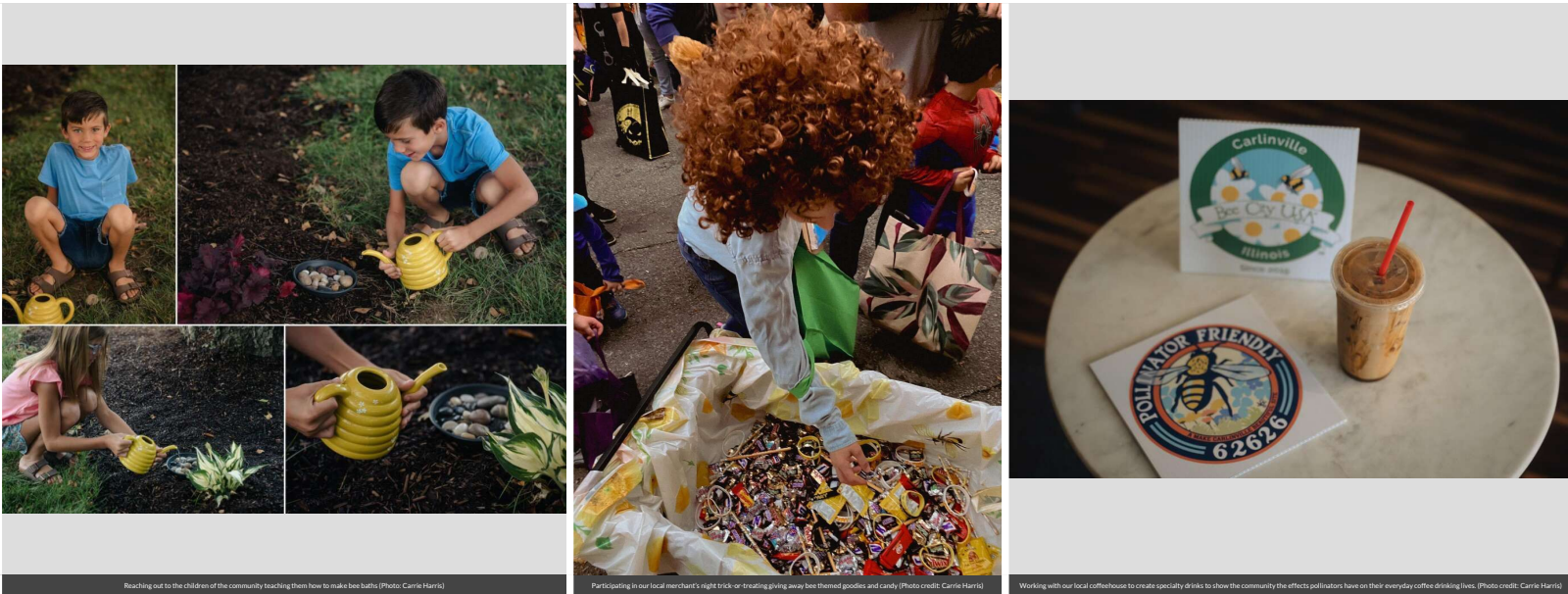
3

How many people attended those events (in total)?

40

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

8



Policies & Practices

Please describe actions taken to make pest management more pollinator-friendly.

While we still need to focus our efforts on educating private citizens on how they can help the pollinators through their pest management plans at home, we did spend time in 2023 discussing pest management strategies as it pertains to public spaces. By developing a plan that will be better for the pollinators and better for the citizens of the community, we can help everyone live healthier lives.

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

Always! As representatives for the pollinators at the city levels, our Bee City committee and volunteers are always looking for ways we can develop policy initiatives at the local level to help protect pollinators.

Did your committee participate in any continuing education on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management planning?

We attended a few presentations sponsored by the University of Illinois that touched on pesticide management as well as attended online courses and presentation to help us broaden our knowledge.

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've taken steps working with the city government to explore alternative pesticide options in public spaces. 2024 will be a year that we strive to expand that to educating our citizens when it comes to residential pesticide use.



Pollinators Welcome Here!

Helping pollinators year round

Spring

Early blooming flowers provide food for pollinators in migration or emerging from hibernation.

Summer

Flowering plants provide nectar and pollen for pollinators and their young.

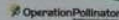
Fall

Late blooming flowers provide food for pollinators preparing for winter.

Winter

Dead leaves and stems provide cover during the cold winter months.

Visit www.treesforever.org to learn how you can care for pollinators and join us in planting a better tomorrow!



Our goal is to create spaces that are friendly to pollinators while improving the look of our community. (Photo credit: Carrie Harris)



left to right: Carrie Harris, Bee City Carlinville chair. Lauren Harris, grant writer, writer for social media and website. Mandy Konneker, budget and treasurer

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.carlinvillebees.org/resource-links>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://www.carlinvillebees.org/resource-links>

<http://www.carlinvillebees.org>

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