

Bee City USA - Chattahoochee Hills

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.

Serenbe Pollinator Garden: A .25 acre site was planted with Pollinator friendly plants and maintained without chemicals. Several members of the Bee City Committee were involved in the design volunteer coordination to get the garden installed. A permanent sign was installed with interpretation and a QR code that leads to more information.

Bear Creek Nature Center Pollinator Garden: A small pollinator garden was rehabilitated with help from our committee in collaboration with the Serenbe Landscape Committee, the Art Farm at Serenbe and Bear Creek Nature Center. A small water feature was added with a group of High School Volunteers and one of our committee members to provide water and habitat for pollinators. A partnership with Bee City, The Art Farm at Serenbe, The US Fish and Wildlife Service, The State Botanical Garden of Georgia, Quail Forever, The Bobwhite Quail Initiative and Southeastern Grasslands Institute has formed to restore 13 acres of native meadow in the Serenbe Community. Initial treatments for invasive species have been completed and a prescribed burn is planned for late February. A mix of native grass hay will be installed across the site to establish habitat before forbs are added in plug form. This project is administered through a 10yr landowner agreement with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and will continue to unfold and improve for the duration of that time.

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

3

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

30

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

3

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

566500

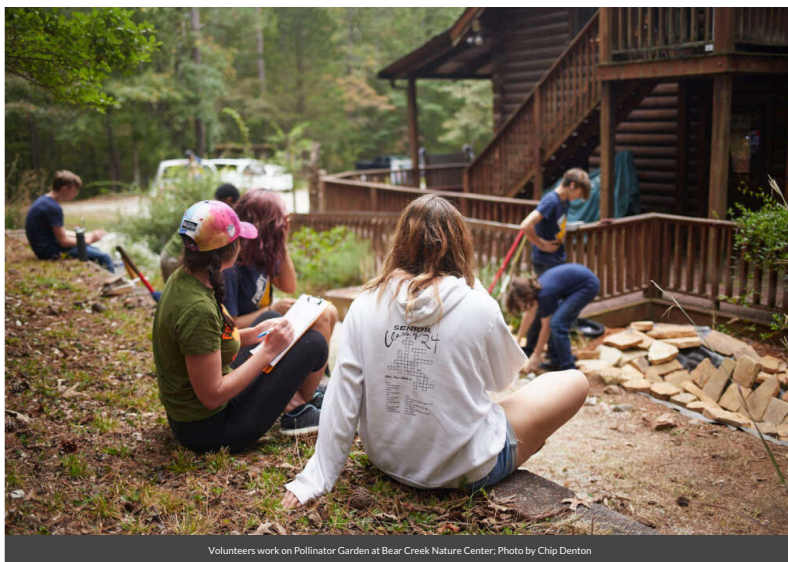
Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance in 2023 with pollinator benefit in mind.

- Flower garden

- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Meadow
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)



Pollinator Plant Propagation hosted by Serenbe Landscape Committee. Photo by Brynn Del Rio



Volunteers work on Pollinator Garden at Bear Creek Nature Center. Photo by Chip Denton

Education & Outreach

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

We helped plan and implement the following events with partners including Bear Creek Nature Center, The City of Chattahoochee Hills, The Art Farm at Serenbe 501c3 and the Serenbe Residential Landscape Committee: 1. SerenBee Day: This was a pollinator focused day hosted by the Serenbe Farmers Market in collaboration with the Chatt Hills Bee City Committee. It included a booth with Bee City information, Bee City Stickers were given out for free and pesticide free pollinator plants that were grown by volunteers from the Serenbe Landscape Committee were sold to raise funds for future pollinator projects. Local honey vendors were present and a demonstration hive was onsite. Care was taken to describe the difference between honeybees and native pollinators and the importance of conserving native pollinators. 2. Pollinator day at Bear Creek Nature Center: This was an event hosted by the Bear Creek Nature Center. It was an entire day of pollinator education, craft projects, vendors and community interaction. The Art Farm at Serenbe 501c3 facilitated the rehabilitation of a pollinator garden onsite and a permanent mural was painted by guests under the guidance of a professional artist. The Serenbe Residential Landscape Committee donated pollinator plants that they grew as gifts for attendees. Most of the Bee City Committee was involved in helping to facilitate this event. 3. Bee City Committee Booth at annual Ray C. Anderson Foundation "Ray Day" event: A booth was created to

disseminate information about Bee City Certification and Pollinator friendly gardening practices. This was done by our committee.

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

2

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

4



Volunteers create a water feature in the pollinator garden at Bear Creek Nature Center. Photo by Chip Denton



Community mural painted at Bear Creek Nature Center for their "Pollinator Party". Photo by Chip Denton 2023



Flow Hive Demonstration at "SurrealBee" day 2023. Photo by Chip Denton



Policies & Practices

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

The City of Chattahoochee Hills has been working with the Bee City Committee to draft an Integrated Pest Management Plan that will be adopted by the City for all city parks and properties. We are in the process of finalizing this draft and anticipate adoption by 2025. Most of our partners (The community of Serenbe and Bear Creek Nature Center, do not use chemical pesticides and only reserve the use of herbicides for the control of invasive exotic species.)

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

We provide information regarding Integrated Pest Management practices on our website.

Please check actions you have taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly.

- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use
- Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants that were not treated with neonicotinoids

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. We have drafted an IPM document that will be reviewed for adoption by City Council for properties under their stewardship.

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Partnerships with organizations like the US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners with Private Landowners



Photo by Chip Denton

[Learn More](#)

[Integrated Pest Management Plan:](#)

[Recommended Native Plant List:](#)

[Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:](#)

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