

Bee City USA - Dawsonville

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.

The Dawson County Woman's Club promoted native plant gardening at three projects in 2023. The third annual pollinator garden tour was held in late June when our gardens were at their finest. This tour presented small 'pollinator spots' and three large home gardens. We also participated in an Earth Day event at the Dawson Co Library by presenting two raised beds of native plants including monarch information and free plants and seeds. The newest project is a large home garden being started from the ground level. Non-natives have been removed and plans made for natives to form a meadow effect.

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

4

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

12

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

4

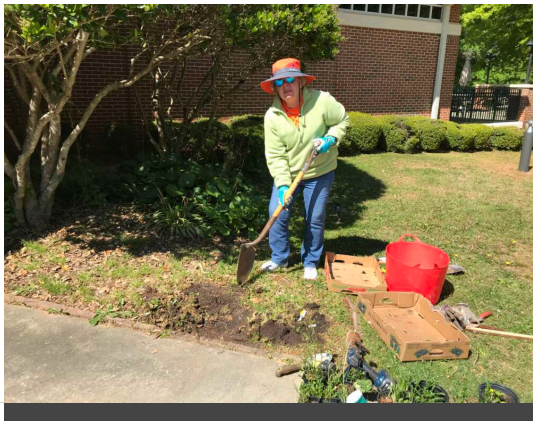
How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

10000

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
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Meadow
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement

- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting



Education & Outreach

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

The Dawson County Woman's Club participated in an Earth Day event at the Dawson County Library. We had information on pollinator gardens, free plants to take home along with having children plant a few wildflowers in our raised beds. We participate each Saturday in mid April through October in the Dawsonville Amicalola Regional Farmer's Market. We have free seeds, plants and handouts on monarchs, native plants and organic pest management. We also created and hosted the Annual Pollinator Tour in June 2023 where visitors

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)?

385

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

5

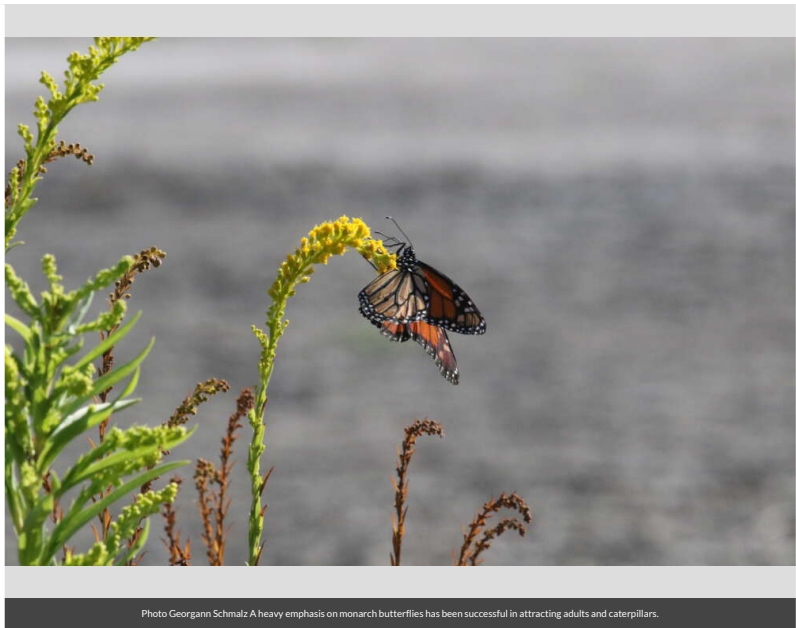


Photo Georgann Schmalz. One of our committee members and master gardener sharing information, plants and seeds at the Saturday Farmers Market.

Photo Georgann Schmalz. A heavy emphasis on monarch butterflies has been successful in attracting adults and caterpillars.



One of five Bee City USA signs in Dawsonville, GA. Photo Georgann Schmalz

Policies & Practices

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

We have arranged for a speaker from the extension service to present information to our club members on organic pest management.

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

Being researched now for 2024 implementation

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

Master gardeners have prepared information on research in pest management.

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 are organizing that in 2023 for further development in 2024.

WHO ARE WE?



GARDENERS!



WHAT DO WE WANT?



ALL THE PLANTS!



WHERE WILL WE PUT THEM?



WE DON'T KNOW!



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Our policies and practices are to educate the community about native plants and organic integrated pest control. Starting with an awareness of the need for safe habitats for all insects without the use of pesticides and non-natives. We start with individuals and their small gardens or spots, leading them to examples in our Pollinator Spots in downtown Dawsonville. We believe the best method for our community to practice good gardening is to know about the ecosystem and how they can plant for a better future.

Photo Georgann Schmalz.



Photo Georgann Schmalz. The Bee City USA committee who are members of the Dawson County Woman's Club and the city of Dawsonville staff.

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List: [RECOMMENDED NATIVE PLANTS FOR GEORGIA.docx](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Recommended Native Plant Supplier List.docx](#)

<http://Dawsoncountywomansclub.org>

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