

Bee City USA - Fauquier County

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.

Two of our Committee members hosted a combined number of 13 habitat projects to create and enhance local land. Members, volunteers, and employees of the property gathered together to complete the projects. There was a great turn out and resulted in a total of 108 volunteers. Projects included invasive plant removal, prescribed burns, native planting, and growing native plants from seeds for plant sales.

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

13

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

108

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

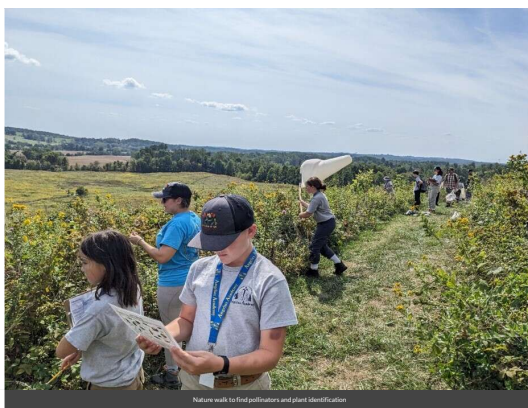
13

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

6500012

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
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- School garden



Education & Outreach

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

The We Need Bees Committee is the facilitating committee for the Fauquier County Parks and Recreation Department. We are able to have direct influence to now offer pollinator education classes and fun ways for children to learn about the importance of pollinators through games and crafts. The Committee has also created a Facebook social media account to utilize as an additional outreach and educational resource for local residents. We plan to share more helpful tips that families can begin to do at home such as identifying an invasive plant and how to remove it.

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

34

How many people attended those events (in total)?

6551

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

14

Bee City USA Fauquier
 Just now · 🌐

Happy December 1st! 🎉

Join us at the Warrenton Christmas Parade to celebrate this joyous time of giving. We will be providing free giveaways during the parade such as goodie bags, T-shirts, and seed packets.

We would like to thank **Fauquier County Parks & Recreation** for generously providing the goodie bags and **The Clifton Institute** for donating local seeds to fill our packets in support of the We Need Bees Committee!

We Need Bees Committee
 2023 Warrenton Christmas Parade

Goodie Bag Contents

- Bee Keychain
- Save The Bees Temporary Tattoos
- 10 Winner Bags will include 1 Free admission to Larry Weeks Community Pool or 1 Free 1-Hour boat rental at C.M. Crockett Park for the upcoming 2024 season!

Outreach on social media to promote the We Need Bees Committee at the Christmas Parade





Photo of a Bee City USA street sign, 1 of 14 total

Policies & Practices

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

The Parks and Recreation Department has implemented multiple pest control methods that would effectively decrease pests while remaining pollinator friendly. Methods have included burning weeds, hand pulling weeds, using horticultural oils, planting more native plants, etc.. The Parks & Recreation Director is a trained Horticulturalist who has been trained in IPM and will set clear articulated goals about when to use pest/herbicide control. Staff will be

trained in plant and insect identification, non-chemical methods will be preferred. The desired benefit will be increased pollinator safety, improved water quality and biodiversity will increase.

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

Yes, the Fauquier County Parks and Recreation has approved a new Policy, F 1 Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to ensure that the initiatives made by the Parks and Recreation Department are continued and made public to increase awareness.

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

No

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

- Implemented or maintained a written IPM plan
- Only use pesticides as a last resort within the 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
- Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds
- Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides 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.

Committee members have conducted outreaches to local Master Gardeners and created a summary flyer to post and submit to local businesses. The flyer serves as an informative document and as a fundraising effort to provide funding for native planting projects throughout the community. The committee also met at a local park to complete an outreach event to speak to residents about their gardens and answer any questions about the committee.

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

The committee learned that many children enjoyed learning about pollinators and their habitats. After each class or presentation, we received many positive comments and continued interest.

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [IPM Plan.docx](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [pied-nat-plants \(1\).pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Clifton Institute Recommended Nurseries.pdf](#)