

Bee City USA - Keene

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.

Water Garden at Keene Public Library Pollinator Meadow at Monadnock View Cemetary

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

2

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

15

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

1

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

150

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

- Meadow
- Rain garden/bioswale



Pollinator Meadow at Monadnock View Cemetary, Photo by John Therriault

Education & Outreach

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

Pollinator Polooza – June 2023 hosted by the Cheshire County Conservation District Earth Day – April 2023 hosted by the Mondadnock Food Co-Op. Pollinator table by the Monadnock Beekeepers Associationb Pollinator Protection Talk – March 2023 at United Church of Christ, Keene by Keene Conservation Commission

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

2

How many people attended those events (in total)?

300

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

1

Policies & Practices

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

Talked to Public Works Department about reducing pesticide use.

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

No

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.

- **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)**
- **Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use**
- **Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants using “Buying Bee-Safe Plants” methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See <https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>)**
- **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.

The Conservation commission asks all utility companies to reduce pesticide use and replant disturbed areas with wildflower pollinator mixes.

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Follow up is key. Utilities will promise to use wildflowers but must be called to account when they fail to do so.

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

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