

Bee City USA - Moorestown Township

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.

As noted above, the big Moorestown pollinator project for 2023 was the creation of a 90 acre pollinator field at the Swede Run open space site. In the past, this open space field was leased to a local farmer who grew soy beans. During late 2022, the field was prepped to become a pollinator site and during 2023 the 90 acre site was planted with sections of hay and local pollinator flowers. Also during 2023, volunteers helped maintain weed control at the Locust Street Park (12,500 sq. ft) as well as the STEM pollinator garden at the Swede Run Dog Park (20,000+ sq. ft.)

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?

35

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

3

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

3920400

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

- Flower garden
- Meadow
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting



STEM volunteers weeding & planting Swede Run Pollinator Garden: Credit Mark Pensiero



Monarch caterpillar on common milkweed at Swede Run Pollinator Garden: Credit Mark Pensiero

Education & Outreach

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

1. Save The Environment of Moorestown (STEM) President Mark Pensiero led a tour of the Moorestown Swede Run Dogpark Pollinator site for 15 residents of the Moorestown Evergreen Senior Living site. Many of the tour participants have small gardens near their cottages and the tour focused on exchanging lessons learned about best methods for pollinator gardens. 2. STEM conducted a town-wide Open Space tour with 40 people in October 2023 that included stops at the Swede Run pollinator field and the Swede Run pollinator garden adjacent to the township's dog park. 3. STEM conducted two informal on-site information sessions to monitor and learn about the planting of 90 acres of open space field. Both sessions had 6-8 folks in attendance. Notably, STEM has a membership of more than 50 people

who received updates throughout 2023 about the planting and care of the field pollinator site. In addition, STEM has a facebook page that regularly. 4. Sustainable Moorestown member Eloise Naylor conducted two sessions at the Moorestown Montessori School outlining the benefits of bees. Students have plans to create their own pollinator garden at the school during 2024. 5. Sustainable Moorestown member Eloise Naylor conducted a workshop for 10 beekeepers and pollinator garden growers at the Moorestown Boundry Creek Park.

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

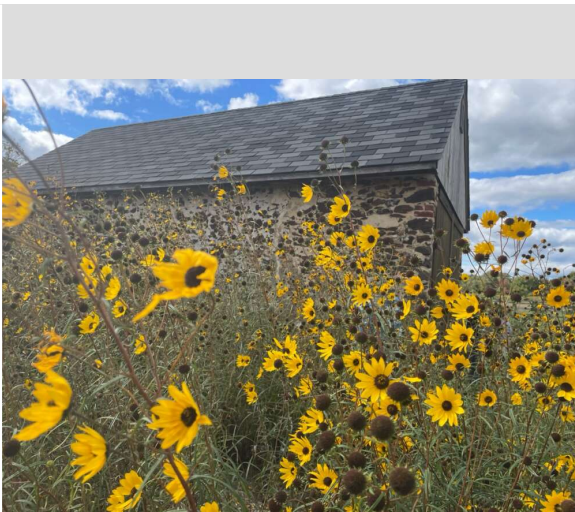
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How many people attended those events (in total)?

119

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

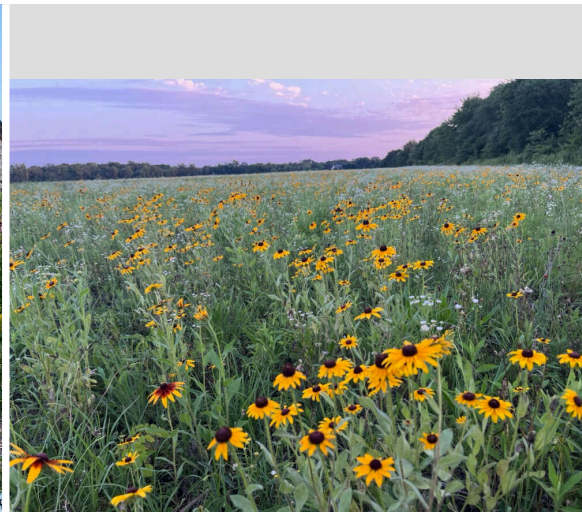
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Swede Run Dog Park Pollinator Garden Flowers. Credit Mark Pensiero



Entrance to Swede Run Pollinator Garden. Credit Mark Pensiero



Swede Run 90 Acre Pollinator Field. Credit Mark Pensiero



Policies & Practices

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

Do not use pesticides.

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)**

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

1. Two lessons have been learned at our Locust Street pollinator site where our pollinator plantings were made directly into existing sod. The first lesson learned has been that shade from nearby trees is limiting some of the flower production. The second lesson is that the nearby neighborhood has slowly come to like the "no till" approach of the garden. In our Swede Run field project, the lesson learned is to be patient when converting an old farm field into a native pollinator and grassland field. Initially the field was prepped and seeded in year one (sleep phase), the growth began to show in year two (creep phase) and then the hay and pollinator flowers began to flourish in year 3, which happened to be 2023 (leap from the soil).



Sustainable Moorestown Pollinator Team: Credit Tina Montana

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<https://ncipmhort.cfans.umn.edu/sites/ncipmhort.cfans.umn.edu/files/2022-03/2020-Guide-to-Integrated-Pest-Management.pdf>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://pollinator.org/PDFs/EasternBroadleaf.Oceanic.rx18.pdf>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

https://plantnative.org/nd_netook.htm#nj

<https://www.facebook.com/SustainableMoorestown>