

Bee City USA - Phoenix

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.

Our Pollinator Garden Certification Program directly impacts the promotion of pollinator habitats. We were the sponsors, along with the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce and the City of Phoenix, of Earth Day 2023. And we are the sponsors, along with the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce and the City of Phoenix, of Earth Day 2024.

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?

14

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

8

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

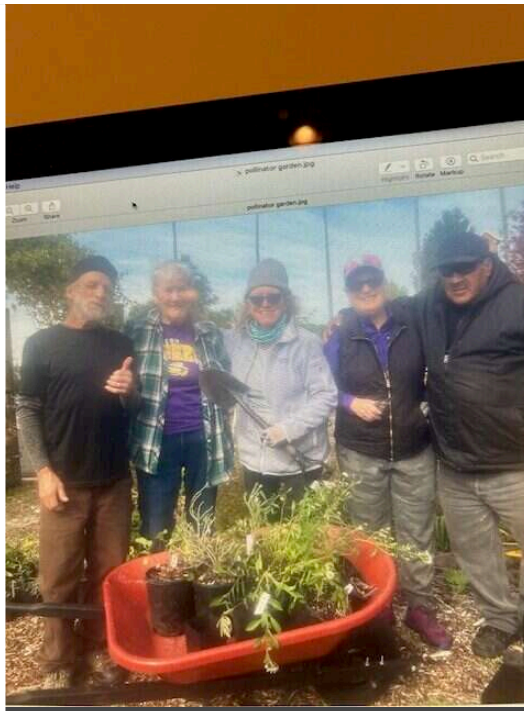
800

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
- Herb garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Rain garden/bioswale



LDS service day at the Blue Heron Park



Volunteers Planting the Klamath-Siskiyou Habitat Kits



The Blue Heron Community Garden

Education & Outreach

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

Earth Day 2023 (hosted) In partnership with the Phoenix Industrial Studies, and the City of Phoenix, Bee City USA Phoenix sponsored a public event to celebrate Earth Day. A local worm farm sold worms at his booth and then released his doves to show the public how these birds are able to return to their home. We had a local garden club, nursery, and the Jackson County Master Gardeners Association selling native plants and teaching the public what grows in southern Oregon that benefits pollinators. A number of local businesses and non-profits also presented educational activities to the children to teach them about environmental practices that will help slow down the negative impact of climate change on plants and animals. Blue Heron Community Garden (hosted) Another ongoing project we support is the Bee City USA Phoenix Pollinator Garden at Blue Heron Park. This October we planted twenty-two Klamath-Siskiyou pollinator habitat plants awarded to us by the Xerces Society. One of our City of Phoenix Blue Heron Park sponsors, the Bear Creek Valley Rotary Club, will soon be installing a "Peace Pole" at the pollinator garden. The garden is maintained as an in-kind donation made by This Seasons Colors, a landscaping company located in Ashland Oregon. The LDS missionaries assist in maintaining the community garden. Pollinator Garden Certification Program (hosted) Bee City USA Phoenix also has a great local program for certifying pollinator gardens (both residential and business) in the Phoenix area. Spearheading the program last Fall is a senior girl scout from Troop 10267 and a local Master Gardener. The signs provided spread education and awareness to the community in support of our pollinator friends.

This year our signage was donated by the Bear Creek Valley Rotary Club. The program includes certification of both residences and businesses. A fillable application form is available on our website at <https://www.cascadegirl.org/about-5>. Alameda Fire Recovery You may know that on September 8, 2020 the City of Phoenix experienced a devastating wildfire that destroyed not only homes but much of the wildlife habitats and wildlife in our area. The Promise Tree Project The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc is working to provide replacement trees to victims of Oregon's 2020 wildfire losses. In the Fall of 2020, it seemed like Oregon was on fire. More than 4000 families lost their homes, their memories, and their neighborhoods. The members of the OSFGC wanted to do more than help with the initial needs. They wanted to give homeowners who are rebuilding a Tree. The City of Phoenix is promoting this initiative on their website that provides a voucher a free tree or shrub.

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

6

How many people attended those events (in total)?

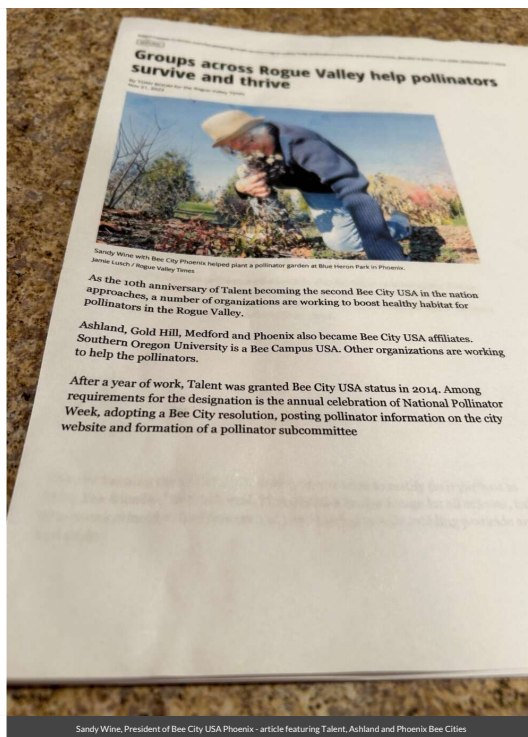
600

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

10



Earth Day flyer 2023 at the Phoenix Industrial Studios



Sandy Wine, President of Bee City USA Phoenix - article featuring Talent, Ashland and Phoenix Bee Cities



Getting ready for Earth Day 2024 at the Blue Heron Park



Policies & Practices

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

Our Pollinator Garden Certification Program directly impacts the promotion of pollinator safe pest management.

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

Not that I am aware of.

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

Broadly addressed pest management via the message that we want to avoid neonicotinoids in any way. One of our members gave a talk at the Shooting Star Nursery and incorporates it in all of her class lectures.

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)**
- **Implemented non-chemical pest prevention and management methods on city or campus grounds**
- **Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied**
- **Restricted pesticides used to organic pesticides on city or campus grounds**
- **Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use**
- **Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids**
- **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 City of Phoenix Public Works Dept. ensures that minimal spraying is used at our parks and actually hand-pulls many of the weeds in the parks (particularly near the playground area and the Community Garden as well as the park entrances and exits. The Department also maintains the City's wetlands areas to control invasive species, such as Blackberries, in wetland areas. The Rogue River Watershed Council maintains the Bear Creek Greenway and the Bear

Creek Stewards sponsor an annual clean-up day at a number of locations all along the Greenway in the Spring and Fall.

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

not at this time



Bee City USA Phoenix Pollinator Garden at the Blue Heron Park



Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/Pesticides/Pages/PollinatorIssues.aspx>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://www.pollinator.org/PDFs/SierranSteppe.rx3.pdf>

<http://Cascadegirl.org>
sandrajwine@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Bee-City-USA-Phoenix-Oregon/100066370608659>