

Bee City USA - Redding

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 City of Redding Parks Department is regularly enhancing open spaces and natural areas by removing invasive plants and pruning native plants for health. We also partner with the Redding Police Department for regular, large scale trash removals in City maintained locations to help preserve these natural habitats for pollinators. Other than these regular maintenance activities previously mentioned, the City of Redding hosts many volunteer events throughout the year that focus on habitat enhancement for pollinators, one of which is our Community Creek Clean-Up event. This is a volunteer event that is open to anyone one in the community over the age of ten and focuses on enhancing different area of the City every year. This year the event was held at a section of natural area along the Sacramento River that had become overgrown with invasive plant species and infested with trash. This event alone brought out hundreds of volunteers for a four-hour work period. The City of Redding Parks Department also partners with a local church group to host approximately 35 volunteer sessions at various locations throughout the city every year. These sessions typically bring out 40-60 volunteers from the church, as well as staff from the City and church. Most of these sessions are also focused on the enhancement of pollinator habitats by the removal trash and invasive plant species.

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

15

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

1500

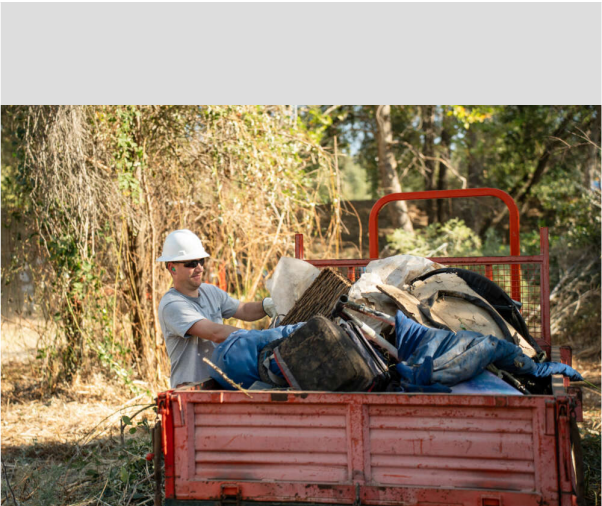
How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

1000000

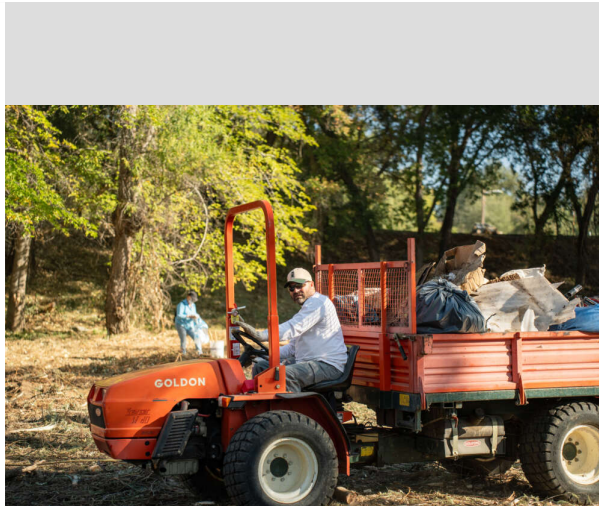
Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance in 2023 with pollinator benefit in mind.

- Flower garden
- Vegetable garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species

- Meadow
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Roadside/rights of way planting



Community Creek Cleanup volunteer event - Photo Credit: City of Redding Photographer Landon Cramer



Community Creek Cleanup volunteer event - Photo Credit: City of Redding Photographer Landon Cramer

COMMUNITY CREEK CLEANUP

SATURDAY | 8AM to NOON
OCT 7, 2023

at Sacramento River Trail
975 North Market Street, Redding

The City of Redding will provide participants with tools, water, and snacks. Volunteers must sign a waiver, bring their own gloves, and wear long sleeves, pants, and closed toe shoes.

This year we will be joined by the Rails to Trails Conservancy to celebrate our recent induction into the Rail Trail Hall of Fame. There will also be a FREE Dump Day Certificate provided to volunteers for the City of Redding Transfer Station, courtesy of Caltrans & Clean California.

Register at shastacreeks.com

REDDING CITY OF
shastacreeks.com

Community Creek Cleanup poster - Photo Credit: City of Redding Communications Department

Education & Outreach

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

2023 was the first year since 2019 that the City of Redding has been able to be involved in an in-person public outreach event to help inform the public of the importance of protecting and sustaining our pollinators. For many years, the Whole Earth and Watershed Festival was held in Redding, California to celebrate Earth Day, bringing out many different organizations, groups, and non-profits to share information and resources with the community. This event provided the perfect opportunity for the City of Redding to inform the public of our partnership with Bee City USA and provide information on how they can contribute to the cause. After struggling with complications to hold the event with COVID restrictions, the organizer decided to discontinue hosting the festival, with the last one was held virtually



in 2021. A local organization, Shasta Environmental Alliance, assumed the role of hosting an Earth Day event for the first time since 2021. Along with almost 50 other groups and organizations, the City of Redding took part in the event. Two representatives from the City handed out Bee City USA brochures and talked with local residents about the importance of sustaining our pollinators. This event brought out approximately 300 attendees and it was evident that the community was very pleased to see an earth day event return.

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

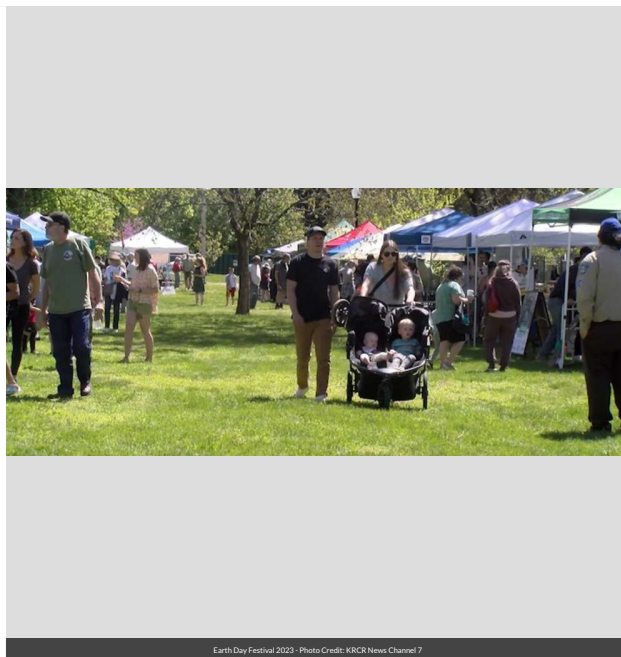
1

How many people attended those events (in total)?

300

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

4





Policies & Practices

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

Throughout the city, there are open space areas that have turf. In these areas, we do not spray pesticides in the grasses. This allows flowering clover and other pollinator-friendly vegetation to grow. We do not use any pest control to maintain the aesthetics of the turf in these open areas and have reduced the areas that we use the pest control to soccer fields and other athletic fields. In Landscape Maintenance Districts, the contractor for the City does their best to use organic pesticides. They have implemented this strategy in their company and have followed through with it in every area that they are able, including the contract they have with the City. In the areas that we do use herbicide, most of the products we use are labeled as non-toxic to bees and, regardless of the labeling, we do not spray when bees are present. If we are using a pesticide labeled toxic to bees, we are required to notify the county agricultural commissioner to inquire if any apiaries are within a mile of the location and if so, follow the county's protocol for moving forward with that herbicide application. The Department as a whole follows best IPM practices by only treating the targeted weeds in areas where other beneficial vegetation exists. Also, we try to only spray areas where other forms of weed control are not economically feasible.

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

There are currently no policy initiatives underway regarding this matter. We do have the rules and guidelines set forth by the city and county for herbicide application relating to environmental safety.

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

The majority of our employees that spray pesticide have their Qualified Applicators License or Qualified Applicators Certificate through the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. This state regulated program requires twenty units of continual education every two years. Through this continual education the staff listens to presentations from different professionals in or related to that field of work, and IPM is always highlighted in at least a few of those presentations. The staff that attends those presentations then shares what they have learned with the rest of our department that did not attend.

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

- Implemented or maintained a written 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
- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use

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.

As the Parks Department, we do our best to reduce pest management, via spraying. We encourage our landscapers and employees to use organic or no spray whenever possible.

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

A lesson learned that I would share is to educate yourself on any natural habitat before disturbing it. It is important to know what plants or organisms are beneficial to a habitat and which ones are not before taking action.

WRITTEN SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM FOR PESTICIDE HANDLERS

GROWER/COMPANY City of Redding Parks

ADDRESS 20055 Viking Way Bldg #4 Redding, CA 96003

PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PROGRAM Christopher Loucks

This annual training program is for the 12 month period beginning Jan 1, 2023 and ending Dec 31, 2023

The purpose of this training program is to provide employees with useful and pertinent information to ensure safe and legal handling of pesticides. SEE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATION (CCR) 6724.

Materials and resources contained within this program include:

TRAINING MATERIAL

LOCATION OF TRAINING MATERIAL

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1) Pesticide Training Forms* | <u>Parks Superintendent Office</u> |
| 2) Pesticide Labels (for each chemical used) | <u>Parks Superintendent Office</u> |
| 3) Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) | <u>Parks Superintendent Office</u> |
| 4) Pesticide Safety Information Series (PSIS A or N) | <u>Parks Superintendent Office</u> |
| 5) PSIS #A-8 or N-8 - Posting | <u>Parks Superintendent Office/Warehouse</u> |

OTHER TRAINING MATERIAL

- 6) Pesticide safety powerpoint presentation w/ links to
- 7) pesticide safety training youtube videos

The following meetings and seminars were attended by employees:

| DATE | NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF MEETING |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1) <u>Feb 13, 2023</u> | <u>Annual Parks Pesticide Safety Training</u> |
| 2) <u>Feb 14, 2023</u> | <u>Annual Parks Pesticide Safety Training</u> |
| 3) _____ | _____ |
| 4) _____ | _____ |
| 5) _____ | _____ |
| 6) _____ | _____ |

A roster of attendance for each meeting is located Hard Copies - Superintendents Office, Backup saved on Parks shared drive.

* The "Pesticide Training Form" documents annual training of all employees who handle pesticides. The completed forms address all required training topics as stated in the California Code of Regulations (Title 3) Section 6724.



Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.turtlebay.org/nursery/#inventory>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://www.turtlebay.org/nursery/#inventory>