

Bee City USA - Rome

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.

1. Enhanced and reseeded 1/8 acre designated pollinator plot in a public park. 2. Created a new pollinator plot at the city's Water Reclamation Facility.

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?

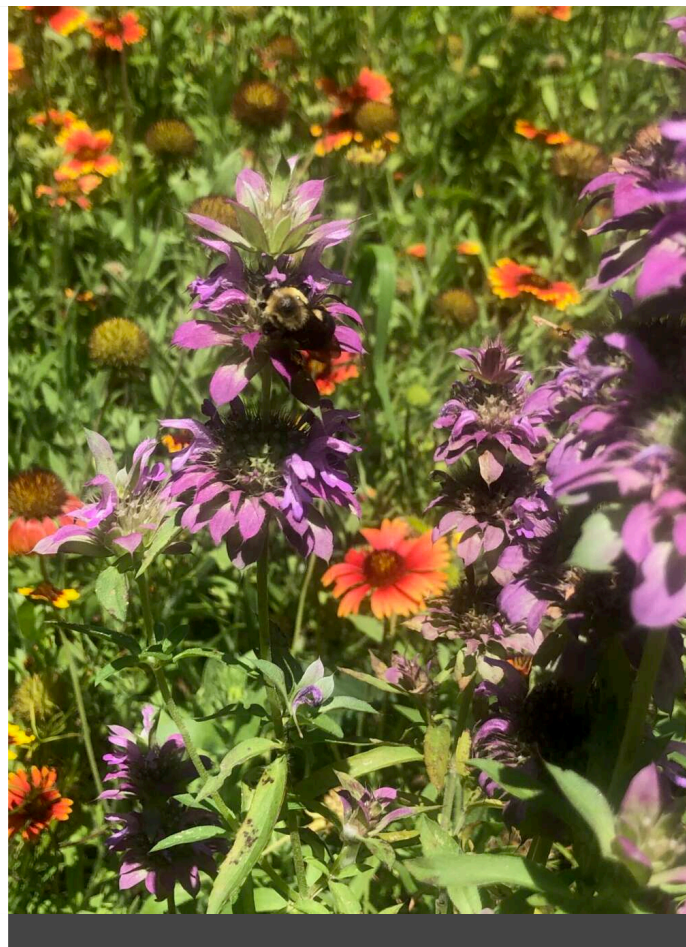
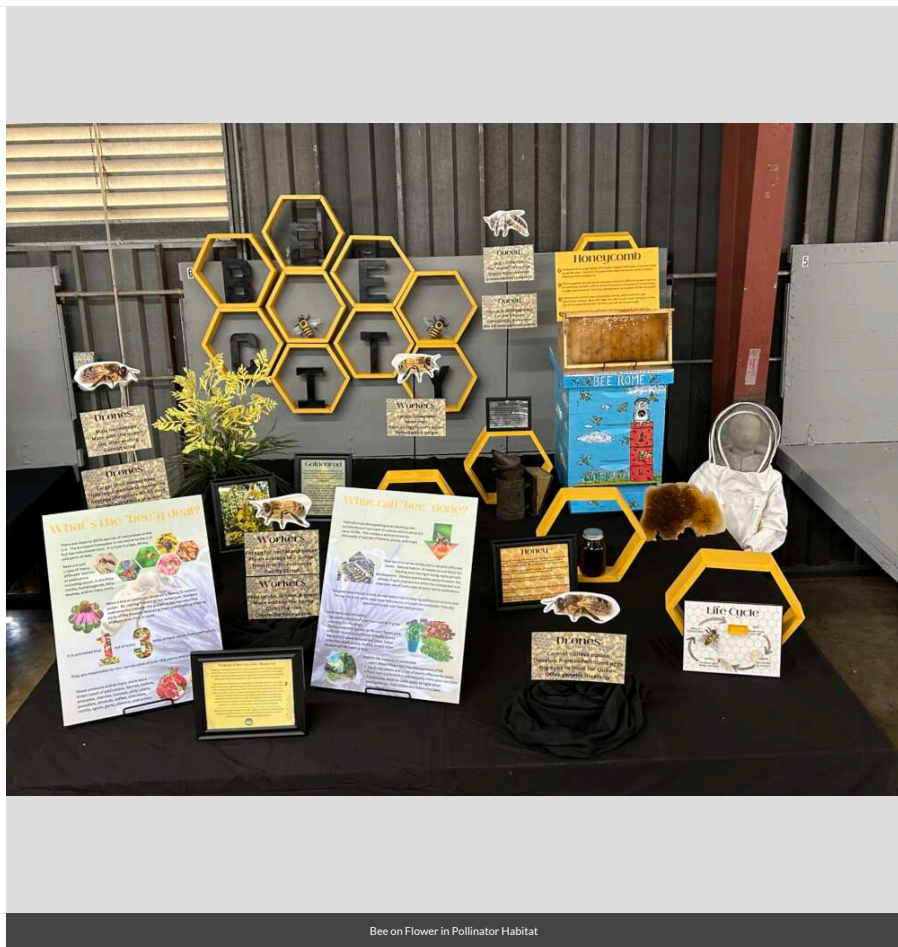
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How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

10000

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

- Flower garden
- Meadow
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)



Education & Outreach

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

1. Pollinator Party Preschool Program (Bee City – Rome Hosted) Taught 21 preschool students what a pollinator is and what they do using pictures, props, and a "nectar" relay race. 2. Bee Fest (Bee City – Rome Hosted) Worked with a local shop on our downtown main street to celebrate National Pollinator Month & Week with a bee-themed festival on June 17, 2023. Included craft projects and games for kids, native plant sales, a demonstration honey bee hive, instructions to build a pollinator watering area, etc. 3. Great Southeast Pollinator Census (Bee City – Rome Hosted) Created opportunities for the public to participate in the census by providing a wildflower location and materials necessary to complete the census including pollinator and plant identification references. 4. Elm Street 2nd Grade Pollinator Program (Bee City – Rome hosted) Visited an entire 2nd grade in a local elementary school to teach an educational program on types of pollinators, how pollination works, and how we benefit from pollinators. 5. Educational Booth at the Coosa Valley Fair (Bee City – Rome Hosted) Set-up a booth with props about honey bees, products from

pollinators/honey bees, what can be done to help pollinators. Representative was at fair each night to talk to the public.

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

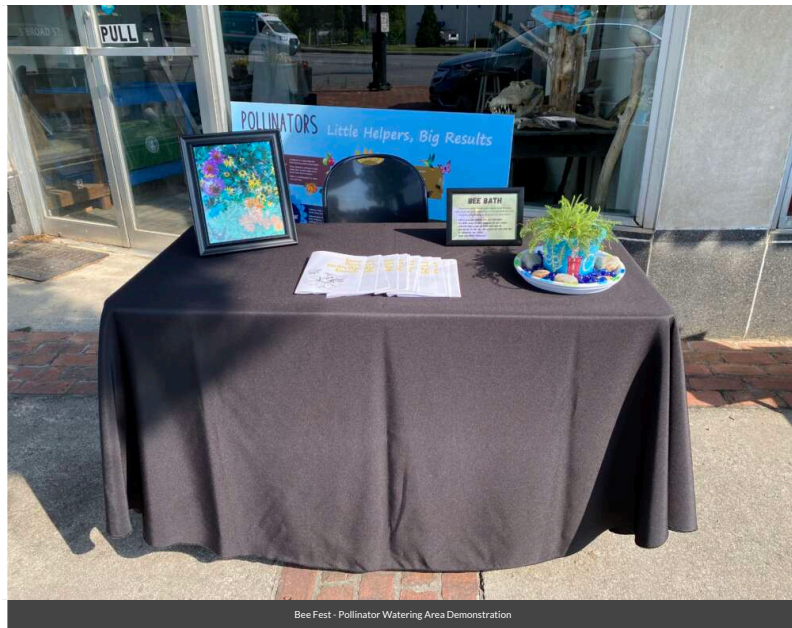
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How many people attended those events (in total)?

526

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

2



Policies & Practices

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

Used manual instead of chemical methods to create and maintain pollinator habitat. Promoted alternative methods of dealing with pests.

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

Unknown.

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

No official classes taken, but continued reading of latest research and methods of practice.

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)

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.

Unknown.

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

We are learning that in our community it is easiest to start small in order to gain believers in what we do. Not everyone is going to immediately adopt the mindset of doing things to benefit pollinators, so we are looking for those areas that we can encourage people to make small changes. Small and manageable changes lead to further conversation, education, and their willingness to make more changes.

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<https://extension.uga.edu/programs-services/integrated-pest-management/publications/handbooks.html>

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

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