

# Bee City USA - Williamstown

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.*

We had constant ongoing education in our Armstrong Garden which is a meadow type garden in the heart of the city. We added several enhancements to the garden this year. We also assisted with the installation of pollinator signage at the new pollinator gardens at the Convention and Visitors Bureau. We created a kitchen garden at historic Henderson Hall that features native and pollinator plants. The final project was a committee member assisted the city of Vienna WV installing a new pollinator garden.

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

6

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

15

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

3

*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
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Meadow
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement

- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Roadside/rights of way planting



Pollinator Garden located at edge of Elementary School (Marty Seafar)



Committee member Edie Leman in our new sunflower section of Armstrong Garden (Joyce McHugh)



WW Welcome Center pollinator garden (Marty Seafar)

## Education & Outreach

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

**Our largest event was the "Flower Power Pollinator Program" at our local library on August 7th. The program featured reading pollinator books to the children, painting flower pots and then planting plants in them. Then the children participated in an educational scavenger hunt at our Armstrong Garden. Each child was given a free t-shirt for the event. We also provided speakers for several area organizations to speak about Bee City and what our mission is.**

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

4

*How many people attended those events (in total)?*

50

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

2



Painting the flower pots (Williamstown Public Library photo)



Each participant got a free t-shirt!! (Marty Scufer)



The Librarian reads a pollinator book to the group (Williamstown Public Library photo)



## Policies & Practices

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

**By ensuring the city is following our Integrated Pest Management program. We are also providing literature to visitors in our city building to help educate them on how they can help in their own yards. Also, we lead by example in our Armstrong Garden.**

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

**Our city storm drains are marked to warn people that they drain into the Ohio River.**

*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.*

- 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)
- Implemented non-chemical pest prevention and management methods on city or campus grounds
- Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds
- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
- Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides on city or campus grounds
- Dropped pesticide use altogether 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.

Our efforts at this time are limited to educational material available in the city building and on our website

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Lead by example. Make sure your city is taking steps to protect the pollinators, especially through the adoption of an IPM



Policies and procedures found within our webpage (Marty Seuffer)



Bee City Committee Collage (Marty Seufer)

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Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [ipmwtown.pdf](https://williamstownwv.org/assets/craft/bee-city-usa/other/ipmwtown.pdf)

<https://williamstownwv.org/assets/craft/bee-city-usa/other/ipmwtown.pdf>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.gardenia.net/native-plants/west-virginia>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://sunfarm.com/>

<https://williamstownwv.org/wv-bee-city-usa>

[seufer@suddenlink.net](mailto:seufer@suddenlink.net)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1315399062290123>