

Bee City USA - Apex

Report on 2024



Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Please describe pollinator habitat creation or enhancement projects in your community in 2024, and whether your committee hosted them or not.

Hosted Fall Public Planting Day: Added 50+ new native plants to the pollinator garden with the help from community members. Harvested seeds from existing plants for guests to take with them to plant in their own habitats. Hosted additional garden clean up and work days throughout the year to pull weeds, mulch, prune, and add additional plants.

How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance in 2024?

2

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

180

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

4

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

1800

Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance in 2024 with pollinator benefit in mind.

- Flower garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Roadside/rights of way planting
- Other



Educational signage regarding overwintering

Education & Outreach

Please describe pollinator conservation events or outreach activities in your community in 2024, indicating whether your committee hosted them or not.

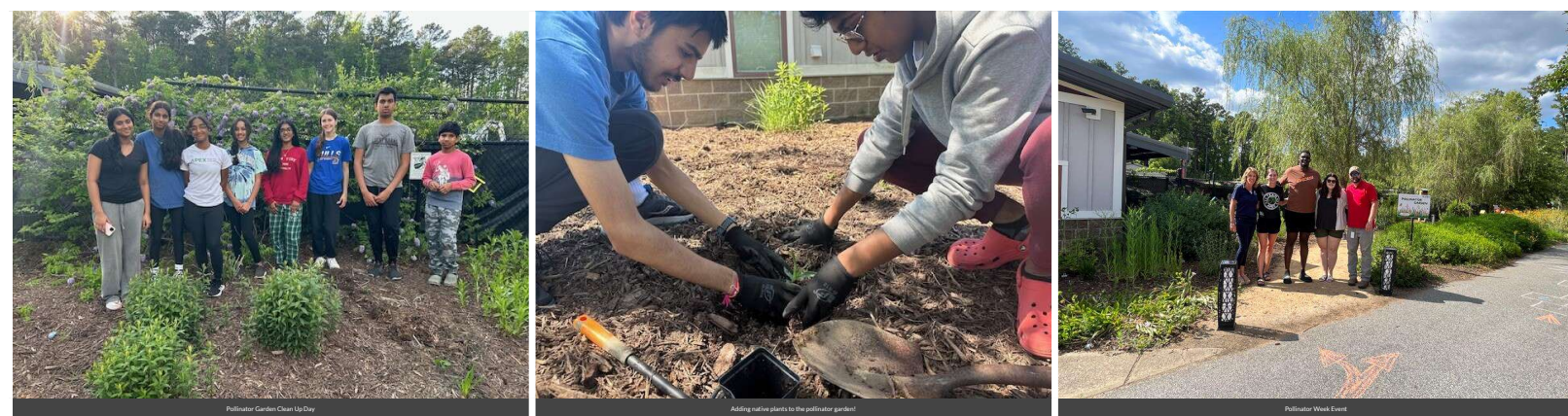
Tabling at Town of Apex Earthfest: Provided information on planting for pollinators, reducing pesticides, and shared general pollinator information. Handed out pollinator seeds to guests. **National Pollinator Week event:** Hosted "An Evening in the Garden", Apex's first Pollinator Week event! We had informational vendors including scouting groups and Master Gardeners, made DIY bee houses, planted new plants in the garden, and gave out information on helping local pollinators. **Pollinator Habitat Certification Program:** Created and launched a native pollinator habitat certification program for community members to be recognized for their habitats!

How many pollinator-related events or outreach activities did you host or help with in 2024 (in total)?

8

How many people attended those events (in total)?

1000



Policies & Practices

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

Pesticides are used as a last resort in pollinator garden areas.

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 Town of Apex recently hired an Environmental Coordinator who will assist with pest management practice adjustments and other policy-related tasks.

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

The Pollinator Habitat Certification Program urges applicants to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides in their habitats and provides links to information on the harm that they can cause.

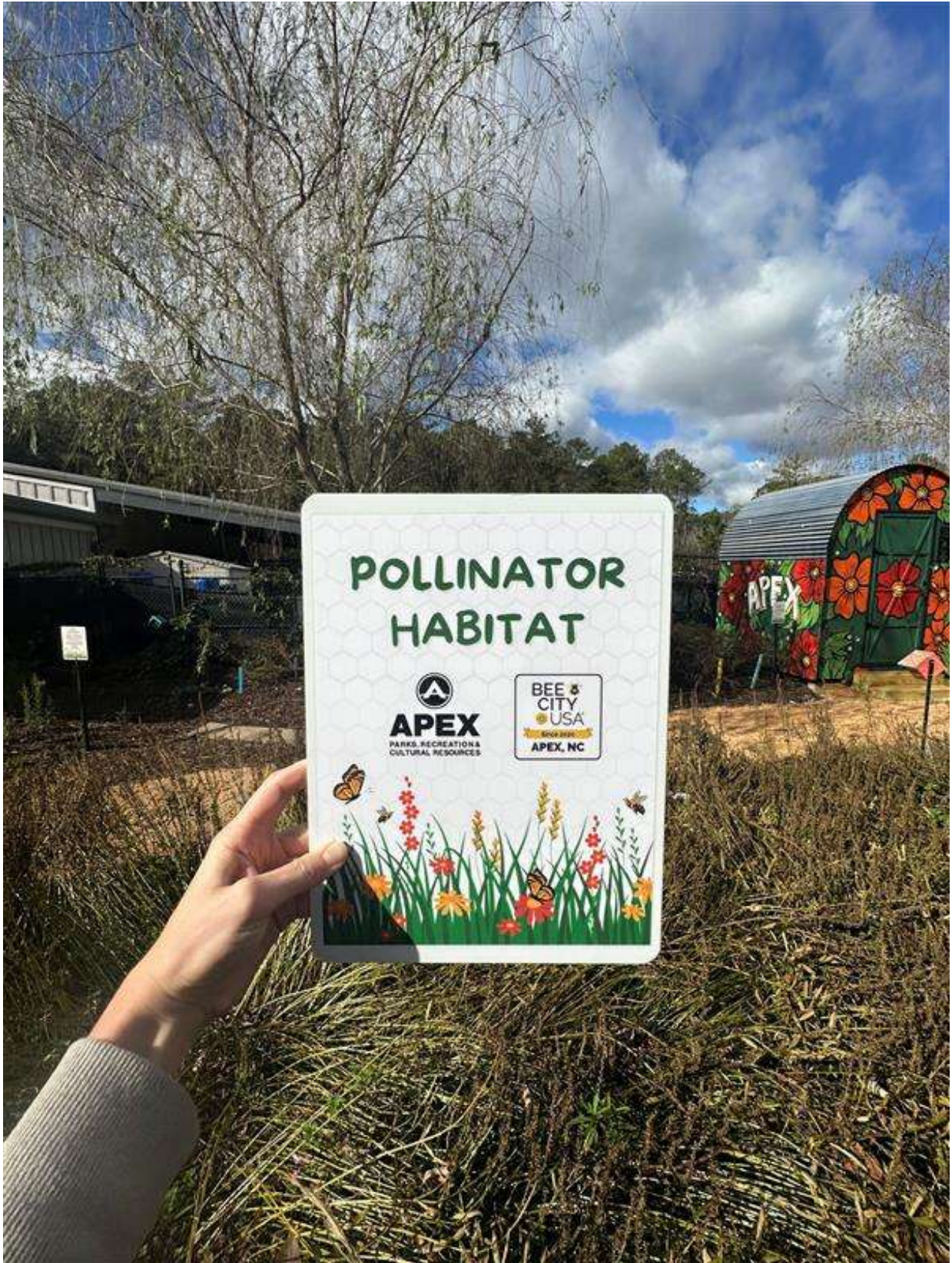
Did your committee participate in any continuing education on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management planning?

The staff liaison attended the IPM webinar that was hosted by the Xerces Society.

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)
- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds using “Buying Bee-Safe Plants” methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See <https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>)
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids



Pollinator Habitat Certification Program Yard Sign

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Community partners continue to be a wonderful resource and we are excited to partner with additional groups and individuals this year.

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<http://www.apexnc.org/DocumentCenter/View/35310/Apex-Sustainability-Initiatives-Report---2021?bidId=>

Recommended Native Plant List: [Top-25-Plants-and-Suppliers-2.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Top-25-Plants-and-Suppliers-2.pdf](#)

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