

Bee City USA - Arlington

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.

Bee City Committee members and the Stormwater Education Specialist continued assisting the City's Water Conservation Educator at the 2.75 acre Lake Arlington Native Plant and Pollinator Garden with maintenance activities. The committee cohosted the annual bioblitz survey at the garden and participates in community presentations at the site. Tarrant Regional Water District provided grant money to implement the Lake Arlington Garden as well as the Southwest Branch Library Garden which was installed in November 2023. TRWD assists with plantings, maintenance and education outreach for both locations.

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?

147

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

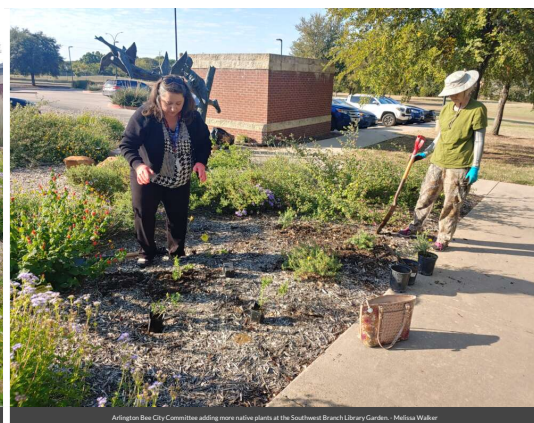
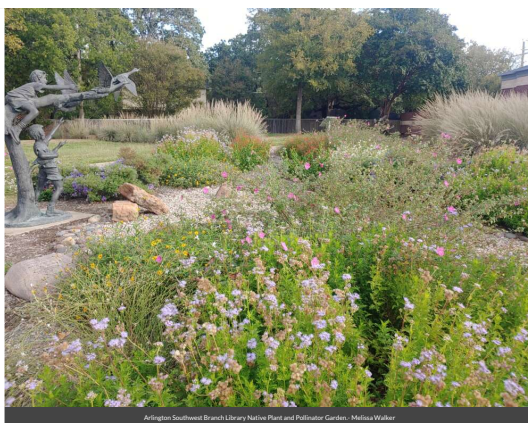
2

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

120790

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

- Flower garden
- Meadow
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Other



Education & Outreach

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

The City of Arlington's Bee City Committee members and Stormwater Education Specialist provide presentations and attend community events throughout the year. The Stormwater Education Specialist also provides support of several Citizen Science Programs that help identify native pollinator species in the City of Arlington. Native Bees and other pollinators student presentations provide information on the importance of creating and protecting native pollinator habitat by discussing the environmental stresses such as disease, habitat loss, and pesticide use. The adult program includes the importance of using native plants in gardens to provide nesting places, food and shelter. Our citizen science program utilizes the iNaturalists application to identify native pollinator species. We host bioblitzes, moth nights and benthic macro-invertebrate programs to gather data on our local species. Brochures on Integrated Pest Management and Pesticide reduction are provided at community events. The City's Parks and Recreation department distributes native trees at several community events throughout the year and emphasizes the use of native plants in residential and business landscapes. a. 5 – K-12 Pollinator Presentations b. 4 – Citizen Science programs – Benthic Macro-Invertebrate Water Quality Program at Shari Capehart Nature Preserve, Moth Night at Shari Capehart Nature Preserve, Lake Arlington Annual Bioblitz and Tarrant County Community College Bioblitz. c. Arlington Citizen Science iNaturalist projects – Aquatic Life of Arlington and Pollinators of Arlington. Community volunteers have been collecting species data within the iNaturalist app on local pollinator species and aquatic life species. Since October 2021, there have been 14,830 observations with a total of 994 species of native bees, moths, butterflies, pollinating beetles, flies and wasps. As of April 2022, there have been 3,849 observations with a total of 214 species of turtles, lizards, frogs and toads, snakes, dragonflies and damselflies, fish, crayfish, snails and other aquatic life.

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

9

How many people attended those events (in total)?

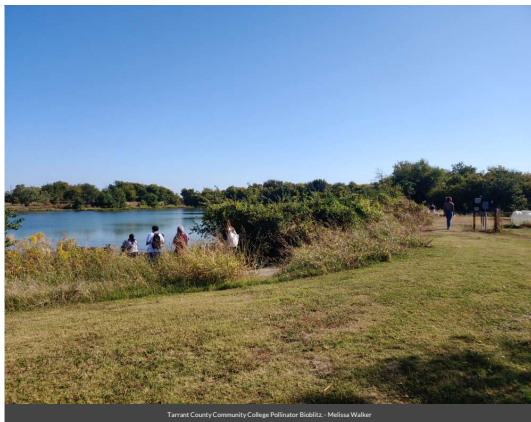
324

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

1



Moat Night at Shari Capohart Nature Preserve - Melissa Walker, Arlington Stormwater Education Specialist



Tarrant County Community College Pollinator Biobelt - Melissa Walker



Dragonfly Nymph from Macro Invertebrate Night at Shari Capohart Nature Preserve - Melissa Walker



Bee City USA sign at the Lake Arlington Garden. - Melissa Walker

Policies & Practices

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

The City's Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for maintaining city property. The department continues to implement Integrated Pest Management practices. This includes avoiding use of pesticides in public sites containing designated pollinator habitat or other sensitive 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 Stormwater Education Specialist along with Bee City committee members attended 8 community events in FY2024 in which the Landscape brochure and PHF pamphlet was provided to encourage residents and business owners to reduce their use of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers. Our education material describes Integrated Pest Management Practices that can be easily implemented to achieve that goal. In FY2024, the Stormwater Education Specialist mailed out 6,618 Stormwater Pollution Prevention postcards to local apartment complexes and 824 Stormwater Pollution Prevention postcards to new businesses in Arlington. The postcards provide information for reduction of all stormwater pollutants including pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers.

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

The City still maintains policies and practices which promote pesticide reduction and pollinator friendly landscapes. These include the Parks and Recreation IPM program; the Design Criteria Manual and Unified Development Code for the business community; Parks and Recreation plant lists, Bee City website plant lists and the Zoning Board's approved plant list for new development; and Code Enforcement's Nuisance Ordinance.

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

There were not any specific CE programs for IPM planning this year.

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
- 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



Volunteers gearing up for Invasive species removal day! - Wendy Pappas COA Parks and Recreation Department

Committee Photo



Arlington Bee City Committee Members hard at work in the library garden. - Melissa Walker

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [COA IPM Update 2020.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [UDC Plant-lists-approved.pdf](#)

https://www.arlingtontx.gov/city_hall/departments/parks_recreation/parks_trails/forestry_and_beautification%20

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Native Plant Suppliers List for North Central Texas.pdf](#)

<http://www.arlingtontx.gov/beecityusa>