

Bee City USA - Elm Grove

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.

A monarch bed was created at the Pilgrim Park Middle School as an Eagle Scout project showcasing swamp milkweed, common milkweed, butterfly weed, ruellia, N-E aster, and showy goldenrod. There were >20 individuals who participated in the preparation and planting. A rain garden at the village park was maintained with 100% native plantings. Two other pollinator beds were maintained with further removal of ornamental species to make room for more native plantings. These three beds were the responsibility of the Beautification Committee.

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

5

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

60

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

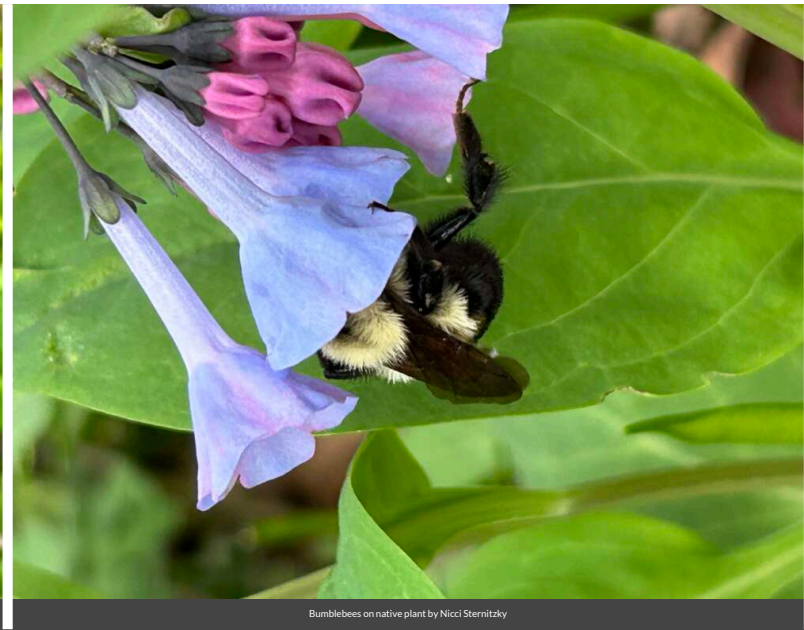
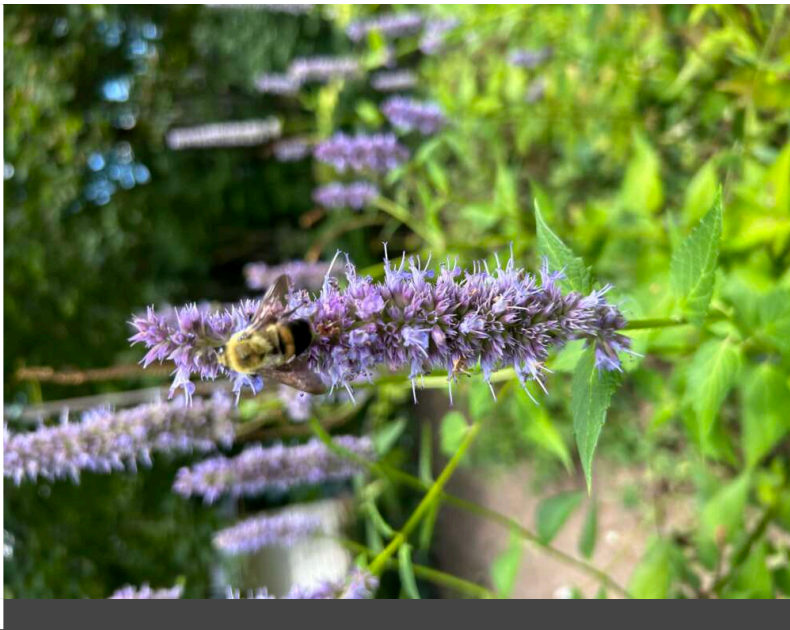
5

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

500

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

- Flower garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Rain garden/bioswale
- School garden



Education & Outreach

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

The Elm Grove Beautification Committee hosted the 4th annual Earth and Arbor Day celebration on April 24, 2024 with over 18 vendors and 150 participants. There were informational booths, booths for purchasing, shrub sale pick-up, along with prizes for giveaway. Each week, the Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force met on Sunday for one hour to work on invasive species eradication within our public spaces. There were a total of 55 people who amassed a total of 305 hours of volunteer time to remove invasive species! The committee also hosted 5 Winter Lecture Series events which drew 30-45 people each on topics such as Birdscaping, Composting, Phenology, Eco-psychology, and nature photography. A monthly Book Club was also maintained reading books that are in alignment with our committee's mission (a list of books is available on the Elm Grove village website under the Beautification Committee tab).

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

39

How many people attended those events (in total)?

355

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



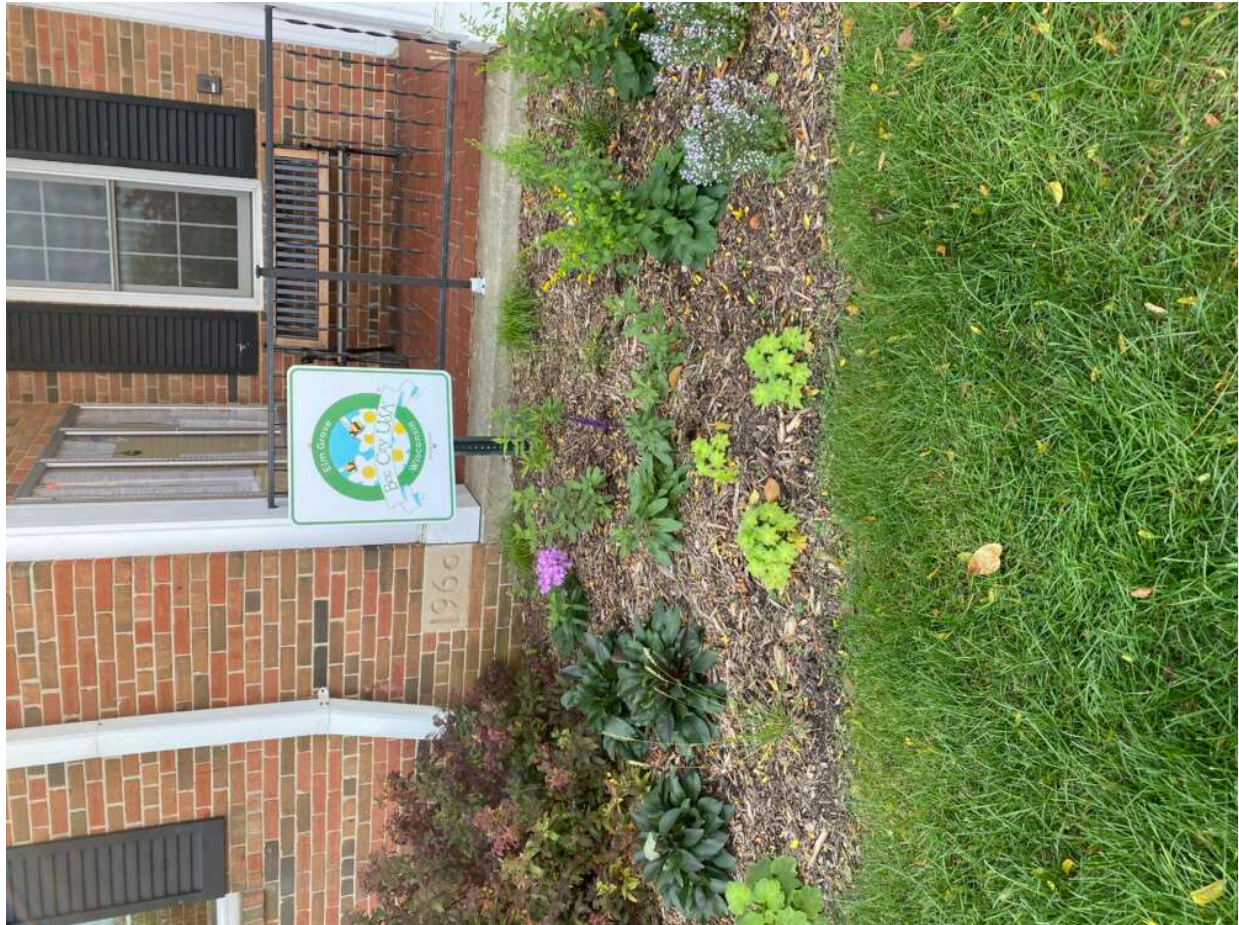
Invasive Species Task Force weekly meet up by Nicci Sternitzky



WDNR Invasive Consider Award for the Elm Grove Invasive Species Task Force by Nicci Sternitzky



Fire Chief and Junior Girl collaboration to hand out native wildflower seeds at parade by Nicci Sternitzky



Sign installed at front of Village Hall entrance by Nicci Sternitzky

Policies & Practices

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

Ongoing education on social media for pollinator protection, including increasing public awareness for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and Consumer Protection Pesticide Registry.

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.

We have been trying to gather a group that would meet just one hour every other month to discuss community efforts at reduced pesticide use. Ongoing outreach efforts being made to coordinate a group dedicated to only this topic are underway.

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

Other than the attached Pollinator Protection Resolution, efforts to promote policy initiatives have not been well received. However, as mentioned earlier, our group is continuing to look at ongoing avenues to engage with the public.

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

Our Winter Lecture Series involved numerous speakers in alignment with our committee's mission. For 2025, we have confirmed a professor from the University of Madison to speak about neonicotinoids and their effect on the ecosystem.

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Earning the designation was easy--engaging with the general public on measures they can take is the hard part!

Committee Photo



Our "Got Garlic Mustard?" campaign, photos by Nicci Sternitzky

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [Pollinator Protection Program 6-28-21.pdf](https://elmgrovi.org/666/Bee-City-USA)

<https://elmgrovi.org/666/Bee-City-USA>

Recommended Native Plant List: [Native plant list for Bee City.docx](https://elmgrovi.org/DocumentCenter/View/5377/Native-plant-list-for-Bee-City)

<https://elmgrovi.org/DocumentCenter/View/5377/Native-plant-list-for-Bee-City>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Bee City USA--Native plant sale supplier for 2025.docx](#)
<https://elmgrovi.org/DocumentCenter/View/5376/Bee-City-USA--Native-plant-sale-supplier-for-2025>

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