

# Bee City USA - Florence

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.*

**Our committee participated in the creation of the cultural garden. Members of our committee supported tree planting during the Earth Day celebration. Municipal staff are currently engaged in a tree inventory, a stream daylighting project that will further enhance pollinator habitat in one of our local parks.**

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

**1**

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

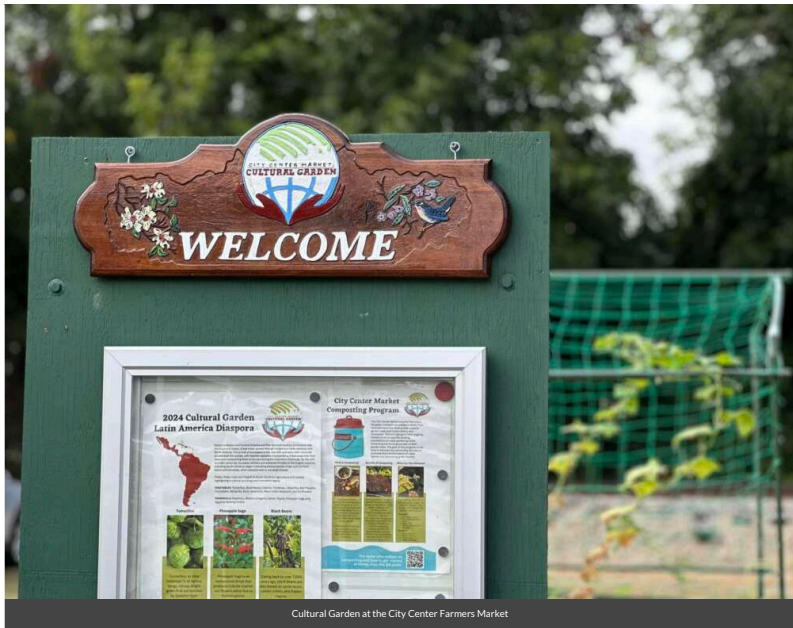
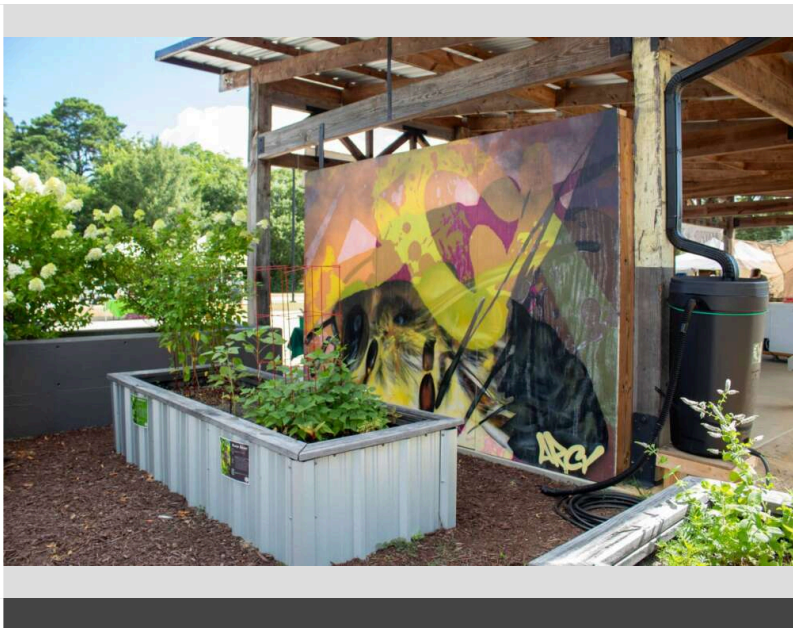
**5**

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

**450**

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

- Vegetable garden
- Herb garden
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting



## Education & Outreach

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

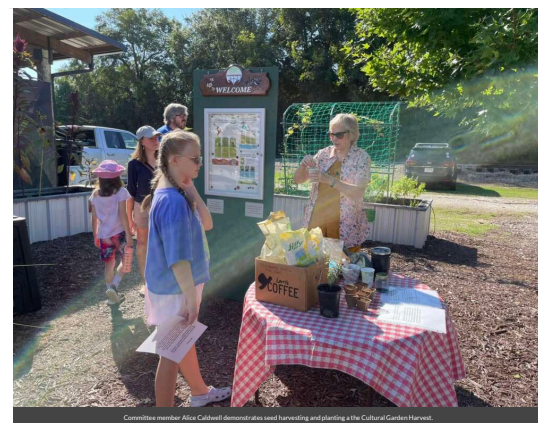
**Our community participated in National Pollinator Week, Earth Day Celebration, and planted and harvested a community cultural garden in 2024. The committee hosted National Pollinator Week and participated in the Earth Day celebration and community cultural garden planting and harvest.**

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

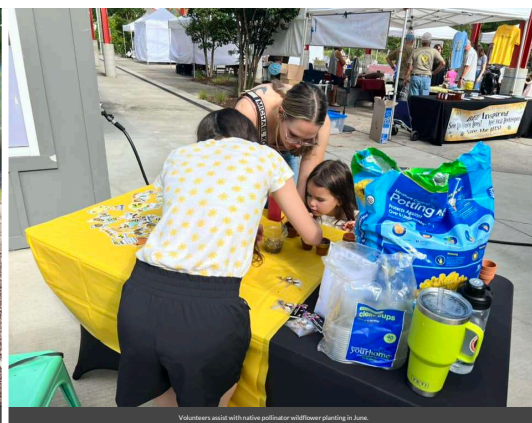
3

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

500



Committee member Alice Caldwell demonstrates seed harvesting and planting at the Cultural Garden Harvest.



Volunteers assist with native pollinator wildflower planting in June.



National Pollinator Week market.

## Policies & Practices

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

**Committee members are working with municipal staff to draft an IPM policy.**

*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.*

**Municipal staff are still working on an integrated pest management plan. They are actively pursuing additional outreach efforts with landscapers and neighborhood associations to be more pollinator-friendly and reduce pesticide use.**

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

**Committee members are working with partners (Keep Florence Beautiful, Clemson Extension, and Florence Master Gardeners) to develop policies for the municipality, local developers, and schools to protect pollinators.**

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

**Not in 2024.**

*Please check actions you have taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly.*

- **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)**
- **Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids**
- **Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants using “Buying Bee-Safe Plants” methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See**

<https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>)

- Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants that were not treated with neonicotinoids



Mayor Teresa Myers Ervin presents a proclamation for National Pollinator Week to a committee member.

*Any lessons learned you would like to share?*

N/A

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Committee Photo

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Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

