

Bee City USA - Gahanna

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 did not host. We created a new pollinator garden in one of our parks with a local Girl Scout troop. we also added 1.5 acres of new prairie and not maintain 18 acres of prairie.

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?

30

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

2

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

60000

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
- Meadow
- Herb garden
- 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



Education & Outreach

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

Our committee did not host any events. Gahanna Parks and Recreation hosted an Arbor Day celebration with one of our elementary schools which focuses on habitat protection and the importance of planting native species. We also hosted a pollinator garden planting event with a local troop of Girl Scouts.

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

6

How many people attended those events (in total)?

750

Policies & Practices

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

We try to manually remove weeds from landscaped beds in city properties and only spray herbicides when deemed necessary. We also use herbicides when treating invasive species.

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 encourage any landscaping contractors to only use pesticides when necessary. We also try to reduce to number of mowed areas that the city owns by converting them to prairie or natural areas which reduces the amount of fertilizer and pesticides used.

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

We removed milkweed from the noxious plants list in the city code and we have a goal of being a more sustainable city by 2050.

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.

- 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 use of neonicotinoid insecticides 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

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

no

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: