

Bee City USA - Greenfield

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.

In 2024, Greenfield enhanced and maintained two large flower beds filled with native plants and flowers and Konkel Park. The beds are in their third season and required weeding and flower replacement for some species that didn't originally take. We also worked with a Master Gardener to create a maintenance plan for these beds.

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?

15

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

2

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

7750

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
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting

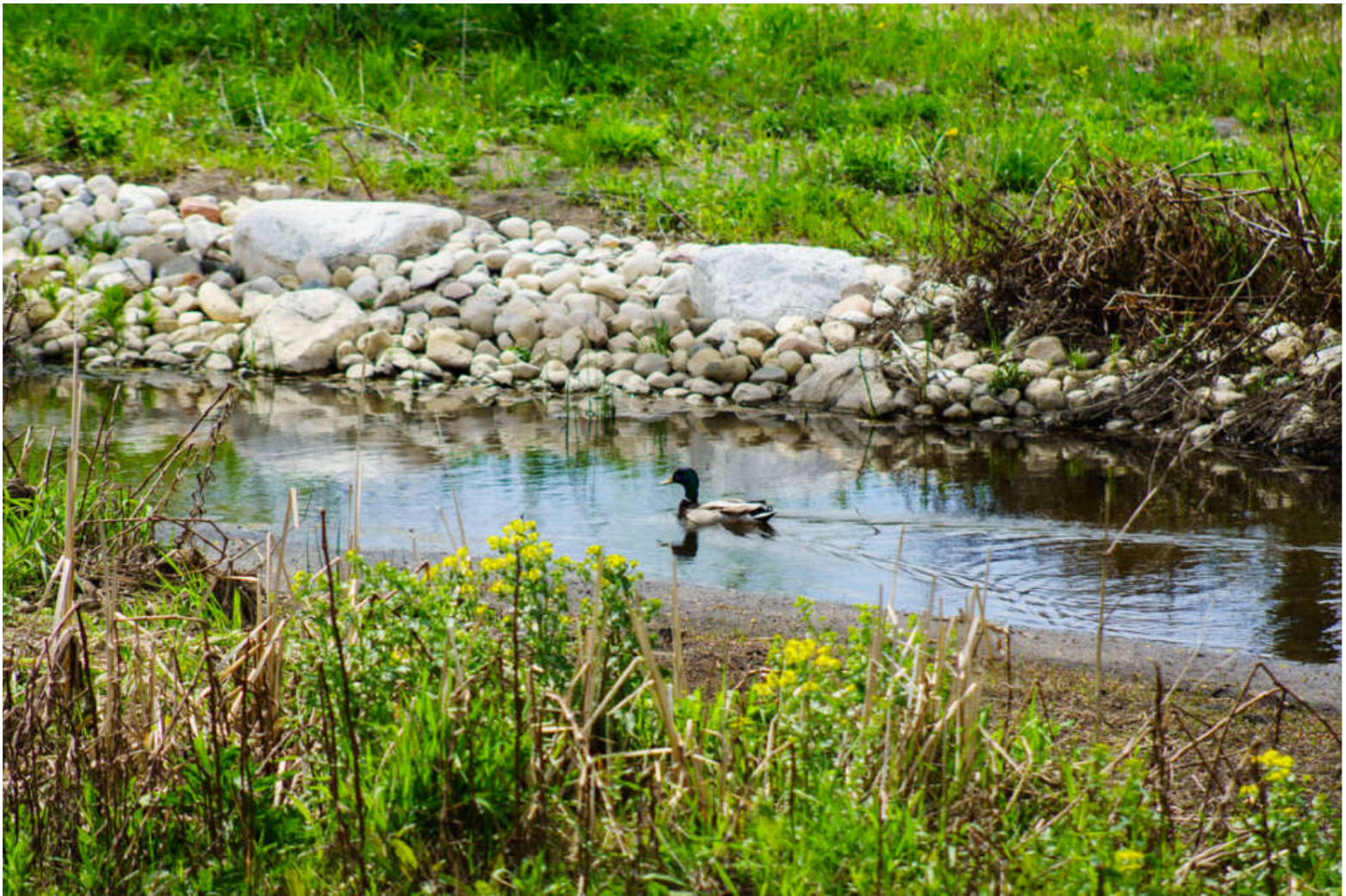


Photo of Konkel Park habitat managed naturalization project, credit Kimberly Mackowski

Education & Outreach

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

Farmers Market Education Booths: The Greenfield Pollinator Protection Committee regularly hosts educational booths at the Greenfield Farmers Market. These booths provide information on creating and maintaining pollinator-friendly gardens, the importance of native plants, and ways to support local pollinators. Visitors can engage with experts, participate in interactive activities, and obtain resources to implement pollinator-friendly practices in their own spaces. ci.greenfield.wi.us **Nature & Forestry Fest:** Greenfield's annual Nature & Forestry Fest is a celebration dedicated to nature and environmental stewardship. The event features a variety of activities and educational

opportunities, including:

- Live wildlife displays, such as owls from the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center.
- Interactive booths from organizations like the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Milwaukee Zoological Society.
- Presentations by experts, including "Seedman" Michael Yanni, focusing on topics like monarch butterflies and native plants.
- Family-friendly activities such as face painting and environmental education stations. This festival provides community members with hands-on experiences to learn about local ecosystems and the vital role of pollinators.

ci.greenfield.wi.us World Migratory Bird Day: Celebrated annually in Greenfield, World Migratory Bird Day emphasizes the significance of migratory birds and their habitats. The event includes:

- Educational sessions on bird conservation and ways to create bird-friendly environments.
- Q&A opportunities with experts from the Zoological Society of Milwaukee.
- Children's activities, art projects, and face painting.
- Raffles and giveaways featuring bird-friendly products.

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

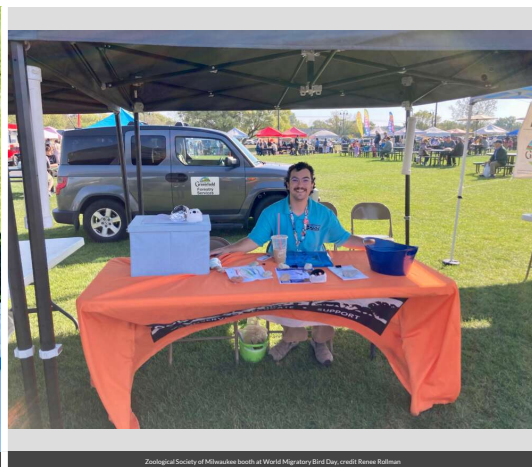
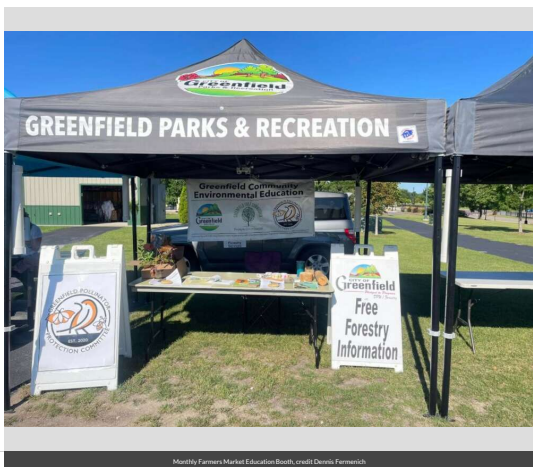
10

How many people attended those events (in total)?

1000

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

6





Policies & Practices

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

Greenfield continually works to mow less and not use pesticides on city-owned properties. We now have large areas, especially along the Honey Creek, that are left in a state of managed naturalization. Reduced mowing in these non-essential areas encourages beneficial insect populations. We have also installed bat and bird houses in Konkel Park. We have installed bird houses in Kulwicki Park and have tested low-mow grass in various 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.

Greenfield provides education to residents about responsible waste disposal to minimize pest attractants, promotes volunteer-led initiatives like "adopt-a-garden" programs to help maintain green spaces and provides information on avoiding excessive pesticide use to protect pollinators and water quality.

In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?
Not at the moment.

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.

- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
- 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?

We had a project from a few years back where a very large area was seeded with a native seed mix and supposedly managed by a contractor. It came to light that this contractor has basically done no invasive species removal at this site (or at least not consistently) and as a result this habitat will require many hours of labor to try to get under control. We are looking into taking legal action as they are still under contract. Moral of the story is to get several references from companies and keep a close eye on their activity.

Committee Photo





Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.ci.greenfield.wi.us/DocumentCenter/View/6519/Recommended-Native-Plant-List>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://www.ci.greenfield.wi.us/DocumentCenter/View/6520/Recommended-Native-Plant-Supplier>

<https://www.ci.greenfield.wi.us/865/Pollinator-Friendly-Community>