

Bee City USA - Lake Oswego

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.

— We hosted a work party in unison with an alumni group from Stanford Law to plant perennial pollinator plants while expanding our pollinator garden in Iron Mountain park. Our Park Specialist from Westlake Park created a new pollinator garden within a previously under used space near walking paths. Our Natural Areas team continued our Habitat Enhancement Program restoring natural areas through noxious weed removal, native plantings, and habitat creation in 383 acres of actively managed natural areas.

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

24

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

541

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

1

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

16680000

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

- Flower garden
- Orchard
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Meadow
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting

- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Rain garden/bioswale



Education & Outreach

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

— The Stewardship Coordinator and Natural Areas team host several work party and educational events based around habitat restoration and conservation in several parks throughout Lake Oswego. We also had Friends groups host work parties to remove noxious weeds, plant native trees and shrubs, educate youth on guided nature walks, and build

community around recognition of the importance of our natural spaces in an urban environment.

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

4

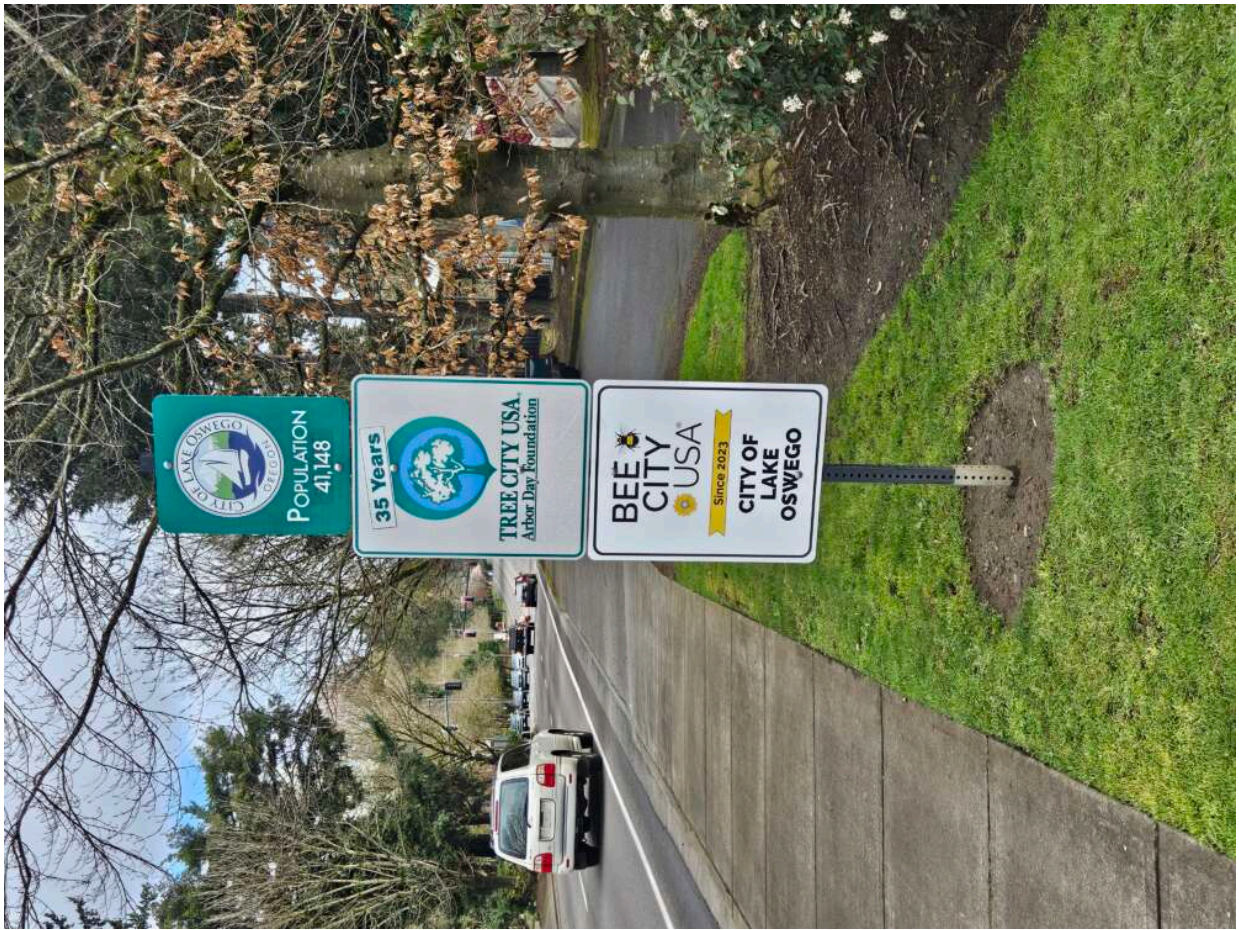
How many people attended those events (in total)?

222

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

4





Policies & Practices

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

— We follow our IPM to prioritize mechanical means for weed removal and bolstering the native plant communities already present to discourage the growth of noxious weeds and limit the need for herbicide use. We have adamantly installed mulch and practiced “leave the leaves” to inhibit unwanted plant growth. In addition, we follow best practices when using pesticides to prevent unwanted targets being sprayed or coming-in-contact with herbicide residue after spraying.

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 several community-led organizations such as our Park, Recreation and Natural Resource Advisory Board (PRNAB), watershed councils, friends’ groups, sustainability board, and more that utilize public outreach to educate the community on pesticide usage and when/how it can be used appropriately. These groups focus on trying to eliminate

the need for pesticide use when it is unnecessary and when it can lead to harmful effects.

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

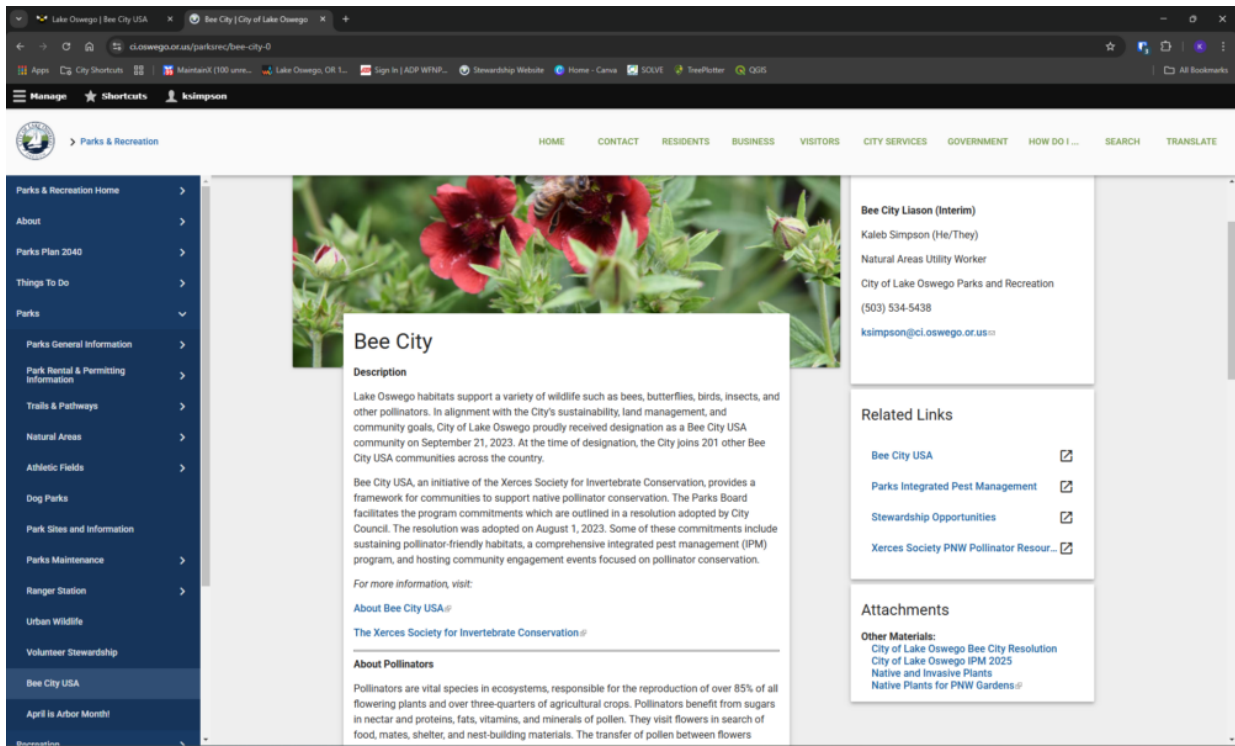
— The City continually tests for pesticides and other contaminants within our waterways. We supply the active ingredients we use to the engineering department overseeing this process to make sure our herbicide usage is specifically tested to measure possible leaching into our waterways. The city has an IPM policy that all employees and contractors throughout the several departments follow, and educate the public on IPM strategies to decrease the use of pesticides.

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

— All the licensed pesticide applicators for the City of Lake Oswego undergo continuing education credits yearly to maintain our Public Pesticide Applicator licenses. The Parks and Recreation Department additionally attends other educational trainings around tree care, new to the area pests, and best practices workshops that contain some element of integrated pest management training and planning.

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
- 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?

— We are always wanting and willing to try new methods for public outreach and education. Keeping methods of presenting this information to the public fresh and inviting helps us continually reach new audiences and excite others to help our cause. We want to live in an urban environment that still has resilient natural ecosystems that can thrive alongside the betterment of human lives.

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [LOPR IPM 2025.pdf](#)

<https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/parksrec/parks-integrated-pest-management>

Recommended Native Plant List: [native_and_invasive_plants_feb12_web.pdf](#)

<https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/planning/native-and-invasive-plant-list>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/>



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<https://instagram.com/cityoflakeoswego>

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