

# Bee City USA - Moorestown Township

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.*

Each year, representatives from Sustainable Moorestown and Save The Environment of Moorestown (STEM) meet informally to review pollinator and share plans for respective sites for the upcoming year. In February 2024, Sustainable Moorestown met with representatives of the Moorestown Rotary Club to share planned pollinator activities. Subsequently, STEM developed plans to partner with members of the Strawbridge Lake Beautification Committee (SLBC) to create 200 sq. ft. pollinator garden utilizing native plants sourced from Pinelands Nursery as well as some plants from the existing STEM pollinator garden. In addition, the Moorestown Rotary Club contacted the Xerces Society to request pollinator plants for development of a new 536 sq. ft. pollinator garden at the Moorestown Community House. Sustainable Moorestown maintains a roof garden atop the Moorestown Town Hall and conducts an annual educational session with about 6 Moorestown Master gardeners. This garden has approximately 625 sq. ft. Sustainable Moorestown also works with the Moorestown Public Works Dept. to maintain a "no till" pollinator garden at the Moorestown Locust Street Park. This site is approximately 11,500 sq. ft. Save the Environment of Moorestown maintains two pollinator sites at the Swedes Run park area. The first site is a 90 acre field of hay and butterfly flowers; the second site is a 20,000 sq. ft. garden with posted signage to help visitors understand the types of pollinator plants in the garden. The pollinator garden is next to a Dog Park that has a high volume of daily visitors.

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

6

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

75

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

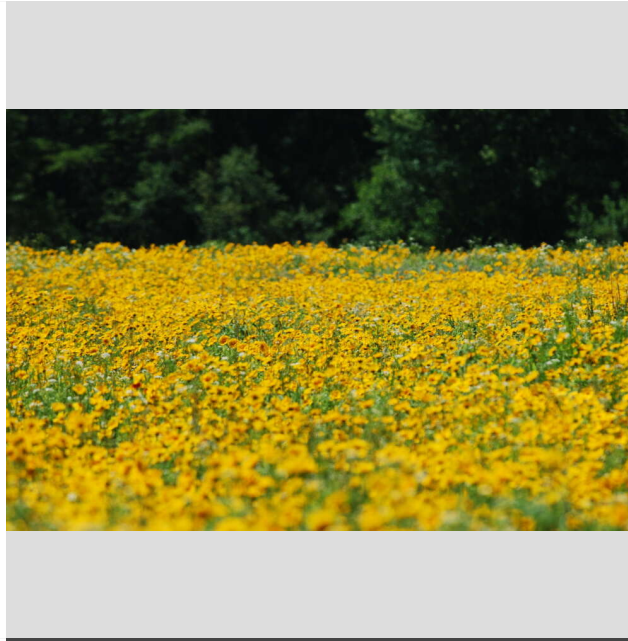
6

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

3921136

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

- Flower garden
- Meadow
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting



Pollinator field of butterfly flowers and hay in background maintained by Moorestown STEM Photo by Mark Pensiero



Swedes Run pollinator garden maintained by Moorestown STEM with educational signage. Photo provided by Mark Pensiero

## Education & Outreach

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

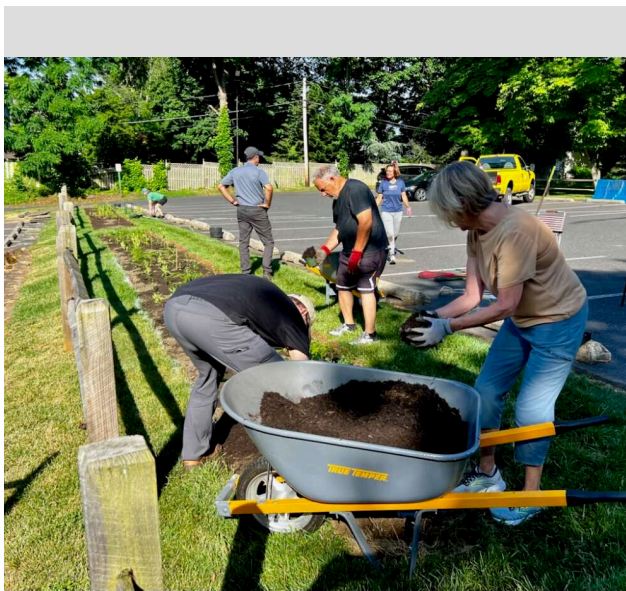
Sustainable Moorestown and Save The Environment of Moorestown both participate in the "Moorestown Day" sponsored by the Moorestown Business Association (MBA) on the second Saturday in June with tables and displays that include educational content about the value of pollinators and restricting use of pesticides. The MBA estimates that approximately 10,000 people attend Moorestown Day each year. Sustainable Moorestown provided seed packets of native plants and pollinators to Moorestown Day attendees; STEM provided pollinator seeds and seed cuttings from the Swedes Run pollinator sites. The Moorestown Rotary created a new 536 sq. ft. site at the Moorestown Community House and conducted a brief educational session to approximately 25 people after completing the planting. STEM conducts one educational work day for their two sites each year with approximately 50 people attending during 2024.

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

7

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

2





Moorestown Locust Street Bee City USA signage. Photo provided by David Hess

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## Policies & Practices

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

The Moorestown Public Works Dept. does not use pesticides in any township public areas with the exception of occasional use in selected problem areas. Pesticides are not used at any of the six public pollinator sites and the Moorestown Garden Club prohibits use of pesticides in any of the community gardens within the township.

*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.*

Sustainable Moorestown, Save The Environment of Moorestown (STEM) and the Moorestown Rotary Club work together to encourage residents to reduce use of pesticides in both public and residential areas.

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

No

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.

- 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)
- Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

We continue to find that tilled pollinator gardens require more maintenance than non-tilled gardens and fields. Nevertheless, our 90 acre field of hay and butterfly flowers is flourishing with minimal maintenance other than annual mowing.

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Committee Photo



Sustainable Moorestown Pollinator Team Photo provided by David Hess

Learn More

**Integrated Pest Management Plan:**

<https://ncipmhort.cfans.umn.edu/sites/ncipmhort.cfans.umn.edu/files/2022-03/2020-Guide-to-Integrated-Pest-Management.pdf>

**Recommended Native Plant List:**

<https://pollinator.org/PDFs/EasternBroadleaf.Oceanic.rx18.pdf>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

[https://plantnative.org/nd\\_netook.htm#nj](https://plantnative.org/nd_netook.htm#nj)

<https://www.facebook.com/SustainableMoorestown>