

Bee City USA - Mount Vernon

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.

With a recent bequest, we will be working with Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation to buy some land to establish a trail and pollinator friendly habitat.

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?

10

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

1

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

1000

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

- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Rain garden/bioswale
- Roadside/rights of way planting
- School garden

Education & Outreach

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

Through our Sustainability Committee, we have established a road side area as prairie with the focus on it being a bee friendly plantings.

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

2

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

2

Policies & Practices

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

Our IPM program involves less frequent mowing of city property and mowing land to mow, and leave natural. Applicators are certified and we use no broadcast 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.

This spring we will offer signs for "no mow May" and front yard prairies spaces noted.

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

Not currently-besides buying new property for a green development with the recent bequest.

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

Noting new here.

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**

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Nothing to add.

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<http://cityofmtvernon-ia.gov>

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