

Bee City USA - Olympia

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, we completed prepping and seeded two large pollinator gardens. We also hosted over 100 habitat restoration work parties at 20 different locations throughout the park system. The Public Works Environmental Services division worked on restoration projects in 29 locations with their seasonal work crew. In total, 3,870 native plants and shrubs were installed on City of Olympia property. Volunteers removed over 500 cubic yards of invasive plants. Public Works and the Parks Maintenance Division successfully piloted "No Mow May" efforts in several areas.

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

42

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

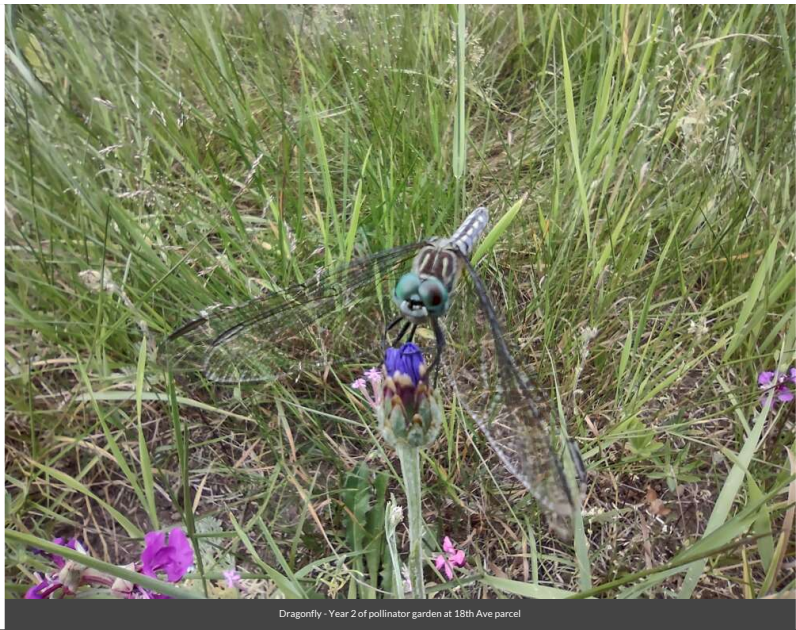
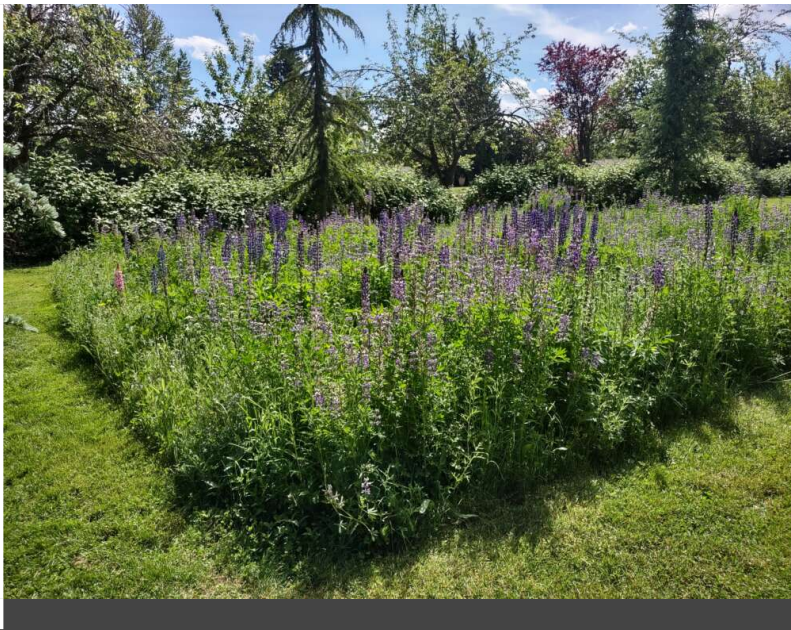
2010

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

452400

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



Education & Outreach

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

In 2024, we hosted several outreach events. For Pollinator Week, we partnered with the regional library system, who featured themed books and community training. They also provided a pollinator book for a "StoryTrail" installation at the park where we celebrated with our annual Bumblebee Jubilee. In addition, we gave away pollinator friendly native plants and seeds at Indigenous Peoples' Day and Arbor Day. We provided education to several groups through bug hotel and butterfly projects. Our partners at Stream Team featured pollinators in their newsletter and our stormwater education colleagues continued education about the harmful effects of pesticides.

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)?

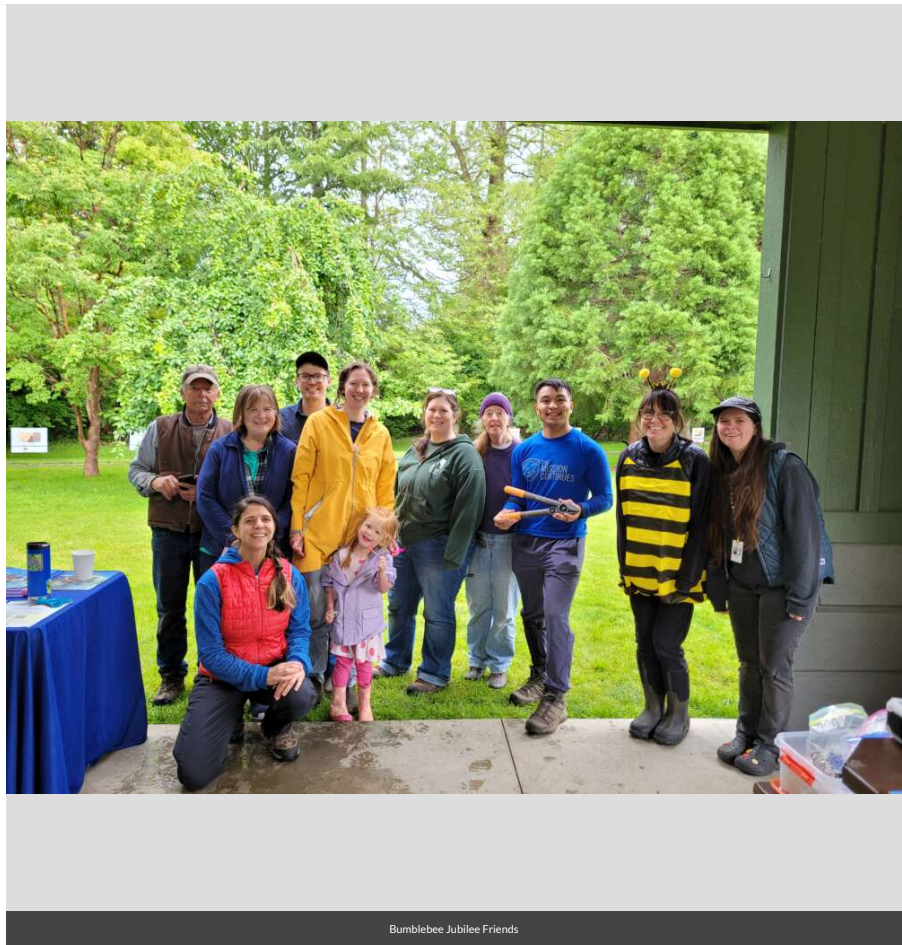
250

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

1



Pocket Prairie non-profit giving away free seeds at Arbor Day



Bumblebee Jubilee Friends

Policies & Practices

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

The City of Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Department is pesticide-free. The only exception is noxious weeds that legally must be controlled.

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.

The Stream Team and stormwater environmental education programs provide information to residents and businesses about the best ways to reduce pesticide use through newsletters and elementary-aged curriculum.

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

While there are no current new initiatives, we continue to follow our IPM that has eliminated the use of pesticides unless legally required.

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.

- 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 pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds
- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
- 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

Committee Photo



Committee members Genevieve and Riley with volunteer at MLK Jr Day of Service restoration work party.

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

https://cms7files.revize.com/olympia/Document_center/Parks%20&%20Recreation/IPM%20FINAL%20Document.pdf

Recommended Native Plant List:

https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/publications/21-024_01_1.pdf

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

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