

Bee City USA - Redding

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.

The City of Redding Parks Department regularly enhances open spaces and natural areas by removing invasive plants and pruning native plants for health. We also partner with the Redding Police Department for regular, large-scale trash removals in city-maintained locations to help preserve these natural habitats for pollinators. Other than these regular maintenance activities previously mentioned, the City of Redding hosts many volunteer events throughout the year that focus on habitat enhancement for pollinators, including our Community Creek Clean-Up event. This volunteer event is open to anyone in the community over the age of ten and focuses on enhancing different areas of the City every year. This year, the event occurred along three distinct sections of Calaboose Creek that had become overgrown with invasive plant species and infested with trash. This event alone brought out approximately two hundred volunteers for a four-hour work period. The City of Redding Parks Department also partners with a local church group to host approximately 35 volunteer sessions annually at various locations throughout the City. These sessions typically bring 40-60 volunteers from the church and staff from the City and church. Most of these sessions are also focused on enhancing pollinator habitats by removing trash and invasive plant species.

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

10

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

1300

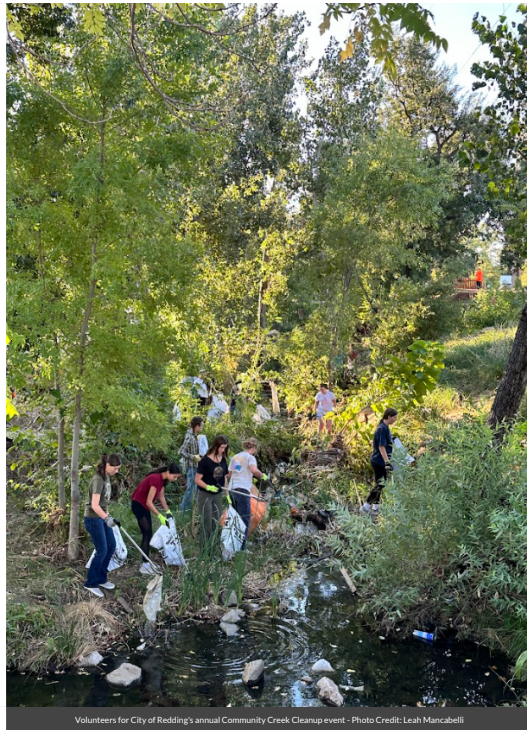
How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

800000

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

- Vegetable garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Meadow
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)

- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Roadside/rights of way planting



Volunteers for City of Redding's annual Community Creek Cleanup event - Photo Credit: Leah Mancabelli



"After Picture" of Calaboose Creek as a result of Community Creek Cleanup - Photo Credit: Leah Mancabelli

Education & Outreach

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

This year, the Shasta Environmental Alliance hosted the second annual Earth Day Festival at one of our City's most popular community parks, Caldwell Park. This event involved around fifty different organizations, groups, and non-profits, all to provide the public with information to help protect and sustain this planet we call home. This event provided the perfect opportunity for the City of Redding to inform the public of our partnership with Bee City USA and provide information on how they can contribute to the cause. Two representatives from the City handed out Bee City USA brochures and talked with residents about the importance of sustaining our pollinators. This event brought out approximately 300 attendees.

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

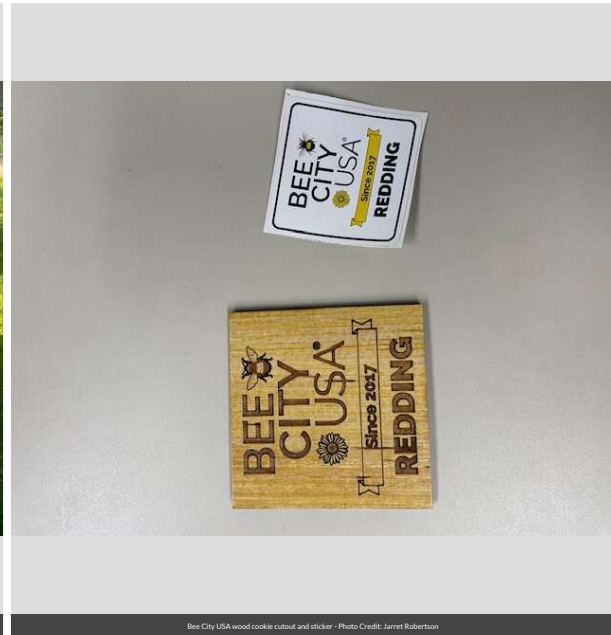
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How many people attended those events (in total)?

600

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.

Throughout the City, there are open space areas with turf. In these areas, we do not spray pesticides on the grasses, which allows flowering clover and other pollinator-friendly vegetation to grow. We do not use any pesticides to maintain the aesthetics of the turf in these open areas and have reduced the areas where we use pesticides to soccer fields and other athletic fields. In landscape maintenance districts, the city contractor uses organic pesticides as much as possible. They have implemented this strategy in their company and followed through with it in every area, including the contract they have with the City. In the areas where we use herbicide, most of the products we use are labeled as non-toxic to bees, and regardless of the labeling, we do not spray when bees are present. If we use a pesticide labeled toxic to bees, we must notify the county agricultural commissioner to inquire if any apiaries are within a mile of the location and, if so, follow the county's protocol for moving forward with that herbicide application. The Department follows best IPM practices by only treating the targeted weeds in areas with other beneficial vegetation. Also, we try only to spray areas where different forms of weed control are not economically feasible.

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.

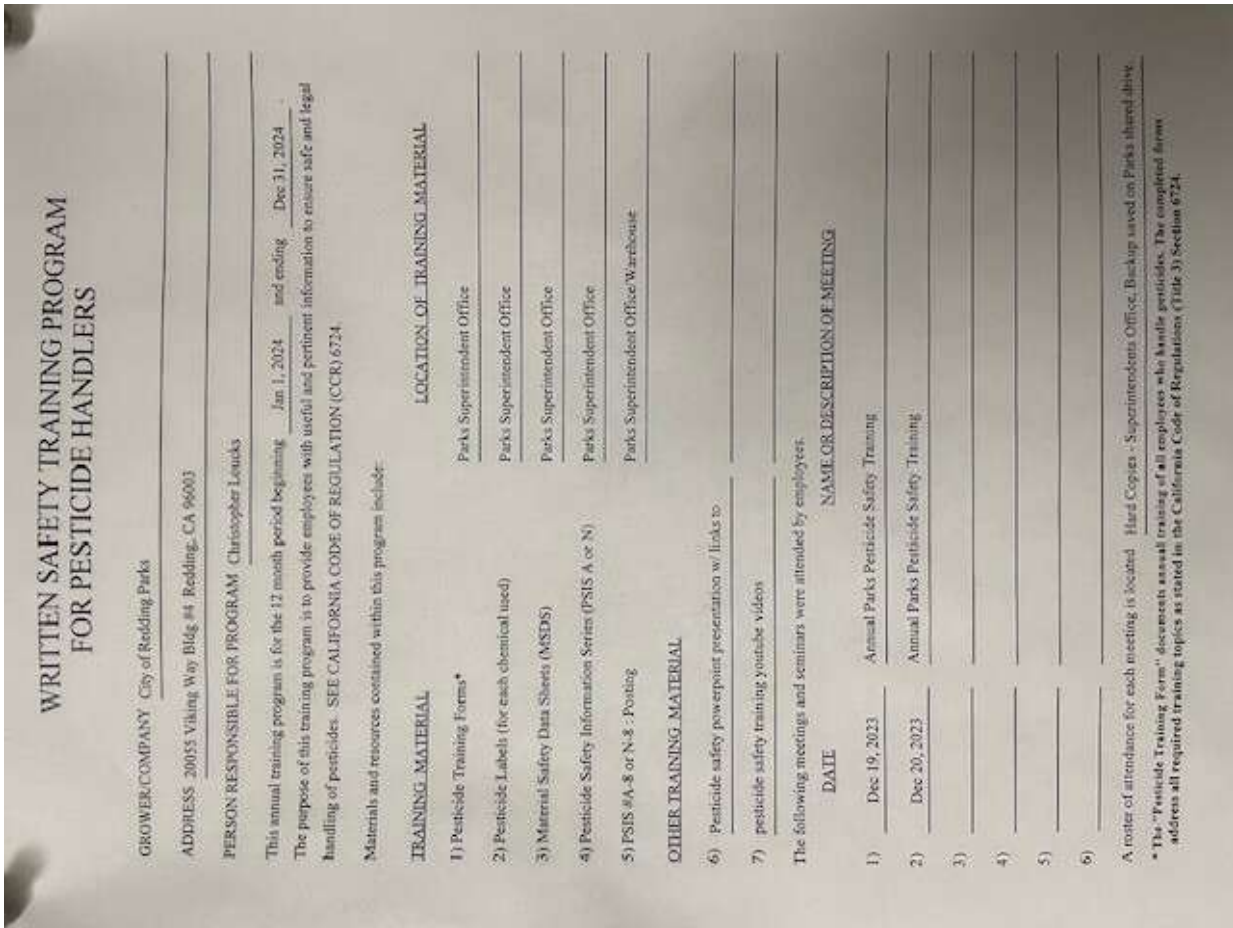
As the Parks Department, we do our best to reduce pest management, via spraying. We encourage our landscapers and employees to use organic or no spray whenever possible.

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

No policy initiatives are currently underway regarding this matter. We have the rules and guidelines for herbicide application set forth by the city and county regarding environmental safety.

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

Most of our employees who spray pesticides have their Qualified Applicators License or Qualified Applicators Certificate through the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. This state-regulated program requires twenty units of continual education every two years. Through this continual education, the staff listens to presentations from different professionals in or related to that field of work, and IPM is always highlighted in at least a few of those presentations. The staff who attends those presentations then shares what they have learned with the rest of our department that did not attend.



Annual Pesticide Handler's Training documentation for Parks Division staff - Photo Credit: Jarret Robertson

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

A lesson learned that I would share is to educate yourself on any natural habitat before disturbing it. It is important to know what plants or organisms are beneficial to a habitat and which ones are not before taking action.

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.turtlebay.org/nursery/#inventory>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://www.turtlebay.org/nursery/#inventory>

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