

Bee City USA - Sandy

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 assisted the Sandy Library in a major native planting project at their location. We also shared Mason Bee Cocoons with the Sandy Library and purchased a bee hotel for them. At the Sandy Community Gardens the Action Group planted native Oregon pollinator friendly plants as well as vegetables in an area close to our own mason bees to help provide resources for them. We created an honorary native, Oregon plant and pollinator friendly area with a bunch of different plants and a large sign explaining the benefits of planting these types of plants.

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

4

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

30

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

1

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

150

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

- Flower garden
- Vegetable garden
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement



Education & Outreach

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

We had an outreach booth at a few events throughout the year: Seed Swap, Plant Swap, Sandy Garden Club Meetings, Arbor Day Event, Earth Day Event, Spring Celebration, World Bee Day, and Longest Day Parkway. We also spearheaded three social media campaigns for pollinators – Leave the Leaves, Lights Out, and Low Mow Spring. Celebrated National Learn About Butterflies Day on March 14, 2024 by hosting a Panel of Experts on Pollinators. Four local experts shared their knowledge and answered some very inquisitive and thoughtful questions from the audience. Celebrated World Bee Day in May by hosting a FREE screening of "My Garden of a Thousand Bees" at the Sandy Cinema! "My Garden of a Thousand Bees" follows acclaimed wildlife filmmaker Martin Dohrn, who, locked down by coronavirus, turns his lenses on the surprising and spectacular bees living in his own urban garden in Bristol, England. Hosted Dr. Graham Frank in October 2024 for a presentation on the affects of wildfires on native bee habitats. We discovered how fire and smoke affect our local pollinators, with ample opportunities to ask questions! Dr. Graham Frank is a forest ecologist at Oregon State University. Hosted a creepy crawly educational presentation at the Sandy Community Center! Got up close and personal with fascinating critters (like roaches, crickets, worms, flies, and more!!), learned about their incredible roles in our ecosystem, and learned tips if you want to raise them in your own home! Started/hosted an educational Full Moon Hike series to learn more about our nocturnal pollinators (like moths!) We had a Master Gardener present in our community gardens about pollinators and gardening throughout all seasons.

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

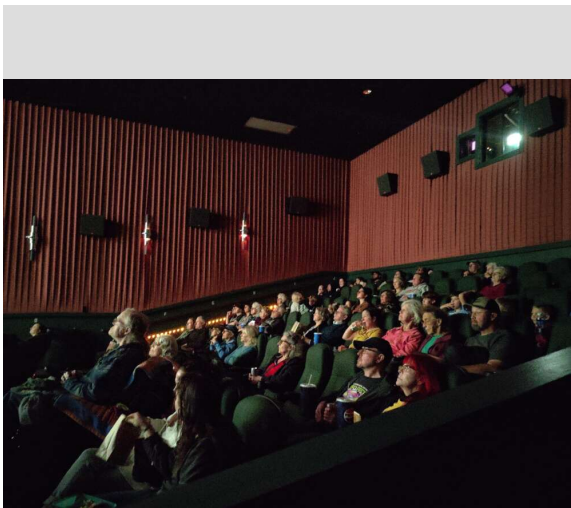
11

How many people attended those events (in total)?

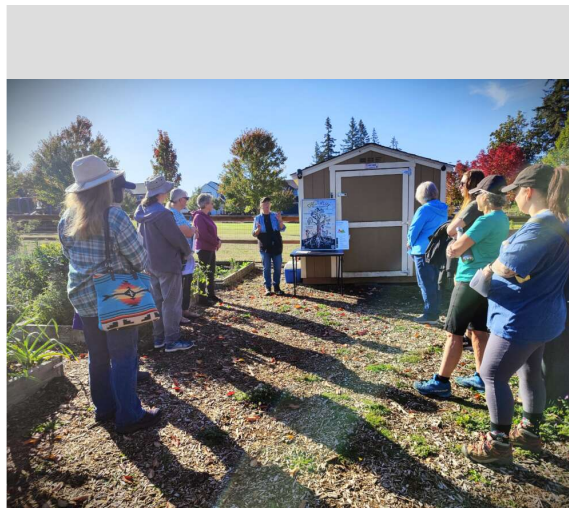
650

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

2



Audience at World Bee Day (Free Movie Event)



Master Gardener Pollinator + Gardening Presentation

WHY CHOOSE NATIVE POLLINATOR FRIENDLY PLANTS?

SUPPORT WILDLIFE
 native plants provide shelter and food, and are essential for the survival of many threatened species - like pollinators! In turn, pollinators move pollen from flower to flower allowing plants to reproduce. Pollinators are also a key part of the food web for other animals and help with pest control.

HELP OUR ENVIRONMENT
 native plants have deep root systems that prevent erosion, capture nutrients, and support important soil microbes. They also lock up carbon dioxide and release oxygen, while beautifying our land!

ADAPTED TO SURVIVE
 native plants are well-adapted to local soils and climates, making them resilient to pests and diseases while requiring less fertilizer. They also provide food and shelter for native pollinators, essential for producing various foods and goods.





SANDY
 PARKS AND RECREATION

Large sign we have displayed at a new garden we installed.



One of two street signs.

Policies & Practices

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

We continue to use our established IPM plan that was created the first year we joined Bee City USA.

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.

Not yet!

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

Not yet!

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
- 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?

Not at this time.

Committee Photo

[Learn More](#)

[Integrated Pest Management Plan:](#)

[Recommended Native Plant List:](#)

[Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:](#)

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