

Bee City USA - Sanford

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.

A pollinator garden was designed by the Environmental Affairs Board and was installed by volunteers from that board, the Appearance Commission, city of Sanford staff and Mayor Rebecca Salmon participated in the planting of the pollinator garden.

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?

30

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

1

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

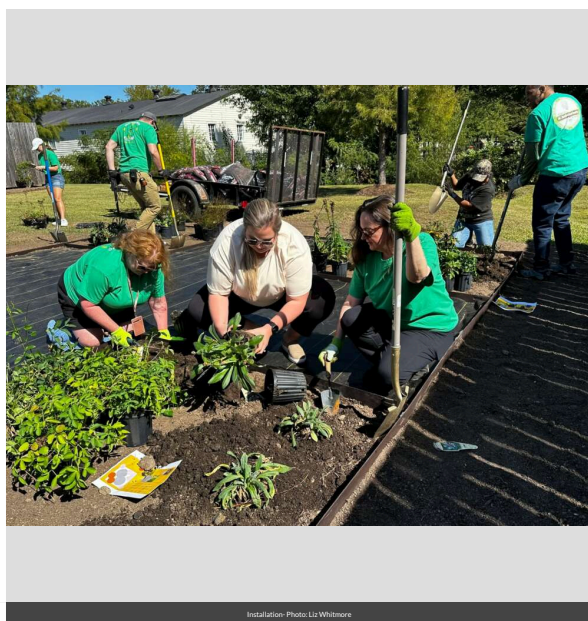
256

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

- Flower garden



Pollinator Garden ready for planting. Photo: Liz Whitmore



Installation. Photo: Liz Whitmore

Education & Outreach

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

Held a dedication when designated Bee city USA, Held a Bee field Day on May 4, 2024, and installed a pollinator garden October 2024. also featured in North Carolinas Bee Buzz Magazine

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

2

How many people attended those events (in total)?

150

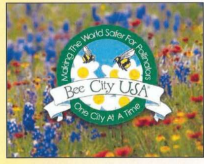
How many Bee City USA logo street signs have you installed to date (in total)?

2



Sanford Recognized as "Bee City USA"

Congratulations are in order to the City of Sanford for being recognized as 'Bee City USA'! Bee City USA is a program administered by the Xerces Society that recognizes communities that have committed themselves to the conservation of pollinators.



A board of advisors was created to guide the process, which consisted of Liz Whitmore, Brian Flynn, Jimmy Randolph, Amanda Wilkins, David Schau, and Lee County Beekeepers President Dennis Brown.

Chatham Park, a pollinator-friendly development in nearby Pittsboro which maintains multiple 'Pollination Stations', gifted the city with three hives in April. Master Beekeeper Jody Moore installed and maintains the colonies. The hives are off to a strong start, producing 50 lbs of surplus honey in their first year.

The Sanford Parks Department, led by Nick Fortaine, visited multiple apiaries before planning one of their own at the Sanford Municipal Center. Once the location and orientation has been decided upon, the Parks Department completed the landscaping and fencing for the new apiary.



Apiary at City of Sanford

The City of Sanford was awarded Bee-Friendly status in spring of 2023 with an official dedication October 19, 2023. The celebration was addressed by Mayor Rebecca Wyhof Salmon, who expressed her belief that "the best of what is going to come from being part of the Bee City is yet to be seen".

Each year, there will be a new pollinator friendly activity for the citizens of Sanford to promote awareness and appreciation for pollinators.



Bee City - Sanford, NC Dedication Ceremony
Jimmy Randolph, Liz Whitmore, Mayor Rebecca Wyhof Salmon, Dennis Brown, Amelia Wilkins, David Schau, Brian Flynn, Jody Moore

NC Bee Buzz - Winter 2023 - 2024



Bee Field Day, May 3, 2024- Master Bee Keeper Jody Moore and citizens- Photo: Liz Whitmore



Lee County Ag Extension selling pollinator plants- Photo: Liz Whitmore

Article in N. C. Bee Buzz magazine Photo- Liz Whitmore





Photo: Liz Whitmore

Policies & Practices

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

The city of Sanford horticulture department has minimized the use of pesticides.

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.

At this time there is a club that meets once a week that discusses the importance of pollinators and the use or lack of use of pesticides.

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

Not at this time

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

Not at this time

5.44 URBAN BEEKEEPING

Urban beekeeping shall be allowed use in accordance with Table 4.6-1 Permitted Use Matrix. Such use shall be permitted subject to the additional requirements set forth below. In accordance with NCGS 160D-906 the County of Lee shall not prohibit any person or entity from owning or possessing five or fewer hives.

5.44.1 BEEHIVE DEFINED

The term "beehive" shall include any receptacle or container, or part of receptacle or container, which is made or prepared for the use of bees. A colony means one hive and its contents, including bees, comb, and appliances.

5.44.2 STANDARDS

5.44.2.1 Dimensional standards: The maximum height of any beehive shall be four feet above grade (or floor surface of roof). Any hive not placed at ground level must be securely attached to an anchor or stand. In the case of roof-mounted beehives, base of hive shall be no closer than ten (10) feet from the edge of the building/vertical wall.

5.44.2.2 Lot Size Standards: There is no minimum lot size required for erecting five or fewer beehives provided that no hive shall be established or kept within ten (10) feet of a property line.

5.44.2.3 Water Source: A constant and adequate on-site source of fresh water shall be provided, and shall be located closer to the hive than any water source on adjacent property.

5.44.2.4 Flyway Barriers: For beehives that are to be placed at ground level, a flyway barrier at least six feet in height, but no greater than seven feet in height, shall be erected parallel to the property line between the hive opening and any property line located ten feet or less therefrom. The flyway barrier shall consist of a wall, solid fence, dense vegetation or a combination thereof extending five feet beyond the hive in each direction. A flyway barrier of dense vegetation shall not be limited to seven feet in height provided that the initial planting is four feet in height and the vegetation normally reaches six feet in height or higher. Barriers shall be maintained in good condition so that all bees are forced to fly at an elevation of at least six feet above ground level. This section shall not be required for beehives that shall be erected on roof tops or similar elevated structures that at least six feet or greater in height above the surrounding grade.

5.44.2.5 Roof Installations: Roof-mounted beehives (or other similar elevated hives) shall be installed and secured in such a manner as to withstand storm events. Installation shall include fasteners, straps or other such devices so as to reasonably ensure that the hive and related structures stays secure to the roof during a significant wind event.

5.44.2.6 Aggressiveness and Abandonment: In any instance in which a colony exhibits unusually aggressive characteristics by stinging or attempting to sting without due provocation or exhibits an unusual disposition towards swarming, it shall be the duty of the beekeeper to promptly "re-queen" the colony. Queens shall be selected from stock bred for gentleness and non-swarming characteristics. If the owner of a hive or hives no longer maintains the hive, or if removal is necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public (as in the case of aggressive bees), the Administrator may order the removal of the hive or hives.

Bee Ordinance - Photo: Liz Whitmore

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

People are very interested in Bees and I have given several presentations to clubs about the importance of pollinators.

Committee Photo



Missing Jody Moore Master Bee Keeper - Photo: Rex Connor

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [IPM plan.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [Native Plant suppliers.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Native Plant suppliers.pdf](#)

<https://sanfordnc.net/839/Bee-City-USA>

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