

Bee City USA - Tualatin

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.

One of the areas of focus in recent years has been to convert turf and lawn areas into pollinator habitat that does not require mowing (no mow) and at the same time creates more pollinator habitat throughout our system. In 2024 we transformed 13,750 square feet from turf areas to new native pollinator gardens.

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

5

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

25

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

13750

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
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Herb garden
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting



Hedgerow lines of turf replacement at Atfalati Park. Photo credit J. Konen

Education & Outreach

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

In Tualatin, our Parks Department partners with our Volunteer Services Division in planning and providing volunteer opportunities for residents to engage in planting plans to expand pollinator gardens throughout our parks system each year. In 2024 we hosted 6 different planting events that included pollinators and information sharing about the need to protect pollinators. In total we planted 2145 native trees, shrubs, and native flowering plants engaging a total of 297 people.

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

5

How many people attended those events (in total)?

297

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

15



High School students planting natives at Dakota Greenway. Photo credit J. Konen



Middle School students at Jurgen Community Garden. Photo credit J. Konen



Bee City Sign on SW Boones Ferry at south city limits. Photo credit Tom Steiger

Policies & Practices

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

All Parks Maintenance team members are required to possess and maintain a Public Pesticide Applicator License issued by the State of Oregon Department of Agriculture. By law, team members are required to obtain CEU's to keep licenses current. Oregon State University Extension along with ODA hosts training classes each year for opportunities to obtain required CEU's. These agency's along with Xerces Society have been providing informational classes about pollinator protection as well as invasive species management techniques. We never use neonicotinoids in our parks and landscapes and have thresholds well above the need to do so. We are diligent about not spraying herbicides when undesirable plants are in flower and likely to attract pollinating insects.

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.

Yes the City of Tualatin provides direct financial support (\$10,000 annually) to Backyard Habitat. A regional non-profit

that promotes conservation efforts including pollinator habitat, water conservation, and the use of native trees and shrubs in residential areas. In 2024 they have helped create 23 Certified properties. An additional 83 properties are "in progress" and in total have improved/restored 22 acres and planted 2200 native trees shrubs and flowers.

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

Through our maintenance practices we continually improve processes and practices with the purpose of improving natural habitat. We have many examples that have resulted in us using fewer pesticides each year. We have created areas in the buffer zones of our parks where we have "left the leaves" for improving habitat, and are reducing mowing areas and creating pollinator gardens.

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

Our new park development projects are thoroughly vetted with TPARK, our Parks and Recreation board. All of our new developments include areas for native plant and pollinator improvement. In sensitive areas extensive mitigation practices are in place to offset any changes in the natural environment.



Mitigation planting with natives at new 99W trail. Photo credit T. Steiger

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [Tualatin 2025 IPM statement \(1\).docx](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [plant-request-form.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Beaverlake Nursery Availability Spring 2021 \(\(1\).xlsx](#)

<https://www.tualatinoregon.gov/recreation/bee-city-usa-city-tualatin>
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