

Bee City USA - West Linn

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.

Worked with an Eagle Scout to revamp a Pollinator Garden, adding pollinator plants and removing invasive weeds. Applying mulch and chips to the area. Or committee did not host this project. Native Plantings in 4 parks-Volunteers planted native trees, shrubs and perennials in ivy and invasive weed cleared areas.

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

2

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

165

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

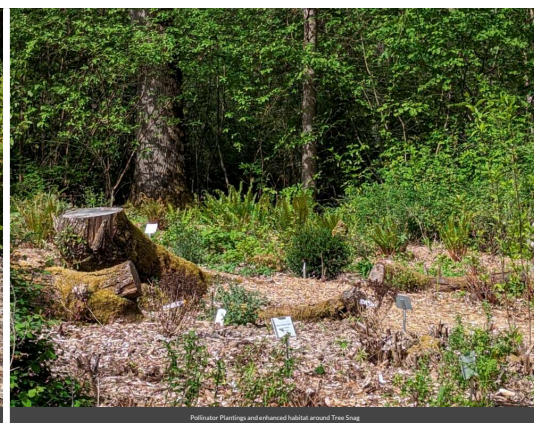
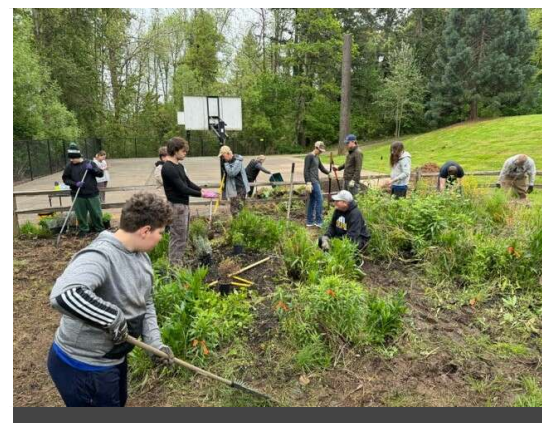
5

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

6515

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



Education & Outreach

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

Arbor Week we gave away 100 native trees and shrubs to citizens, promoting pollinator habitat education materials. Committee did not host event Earth Day WorkDay volunteers removed invasive weeds, mulched areas that were cleared. Committee did not host event Pollinator Week-Provided pollinator plant giveaways to the community, had vendors onsite to discuss educational materials and answer questions. Tour of the pollinator garden. Committee did not host this event.

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)?

575

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

2



Pollinator Week Event-Allissa Caceres



Pollinator Week Promo-Allissa Caceres



Tour of Pollinator Garden with Master Gardener Volunteer-Allissa Caceres



Policies & Practices

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

We have tried to reduce spraying in our parks by hand weeding some areas and mulching to keep weeds suppressed.

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.

Our Council has started having conversations about this, community driven.

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

Yes we have a Clearing Open Space by Adjacent Property Owners Policy that explains guidelines that should be followed.

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

No

Clearing Open Space by Adjacent Property Owners Policy

In accordance with policies permission is required to cut or remove any wood, timber, brush or other material from within the boundaries of public parks and open space. Open space is generally left undisturbed with no maintenance activity or responsibility of the City's work force.

Blackberries, weeds, and other noxious plants which grow easily in unmaintained open space provides minimal value as habitat and can become an eyesore and nuisance to adjacent property owners. This policy establishes guidelines for maintenance of public open space by adjacent property owners.

The following are guidelines for maintenance of public open space by adjacent property owners. Permission must be obtained from the Parks and Recreation Department prior to the beginning of any work.

1. Only non-woody and noxious vegetation may be targeted for removal. Removal of hazardous trees and shrubs must be authorized by the Parks and Recreation Department.
2. All exposed ground must be replanted with trees, shrubs, grasses, or other ground cover recommended to control erosion.
3. All plantings shall be indigenous to "Riparian" areas or "Upland" areas depending on the site location. Riparian is defined as the area between a waterway, either intermittent or perennial, and the upland area above it's bank corridor. These plants may include; Ash, Alder, Birch, Nootka Rose, Red-osier Dogwood, Red Elderberry, Serviceberry, Willow, grasses, and sedges. Upland is defined as the area above a waterways corridor. These plants may include; Cedar, Western Larch, Fir, Hemlock, Oregon Grape, Rhododendrons, Salal, and wildflowers.
4. Other properties, views and privacy must be considered when designing planting area.
5. There shall be no change of drainage courses without consent of affected owners and the City of West Linn Staff.
6. Lawn areas must be kept within the boundaries of private property.
7. All debris resulting from any work done in open space areas must be removed from the site.

Other things to keep in mind are:

1. By removing the noxious plants and replanting with indigenous plants, we are enhancing habitat for various animals in the area. However, some plants that may appear to be undesirable, are in fact very good habitat for birds and animals. For example, dead trees or downed tree logs and stumps provide good cover and homes for many animals and should be left on site for this purpose.
2. Blackberries are defined as undesirable growth in the Oregon Weed Control Handbook, and blackberries are of minimal value in control of erosion during the winter when they have lost their foliage.
3. Improved appearance of public open spaces should discourage use of these areas as dumping areas for lawn refuse, trash, etc.

Clearing Open Space By Adjacent Property Owner Policy

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

We need to include our Committee in our events. We are working on more outreach in the community about the benefits of planting for pollinators.

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<https://westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/parks-integrated-pest-management>

Recommended Native Plant List:

https://nurseryguide.com/find_companies/detail/aurora-nursery

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://champoegnursery.com/>

<https://westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/worker-bees-bee-city-usa%C2%AE>
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<https://www.facebook.com/WestLinnParksandRec>