

# Bee City USA - Williamstown

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.*

**As mentioned above, the library and Women's Club both planted pollinator gardens. The library's emphasis was planting for monarch butterflies. Also, we continued to grow and add on to the Armstrong Garden which is our high visibility project.**

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

**3**

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

**12**

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

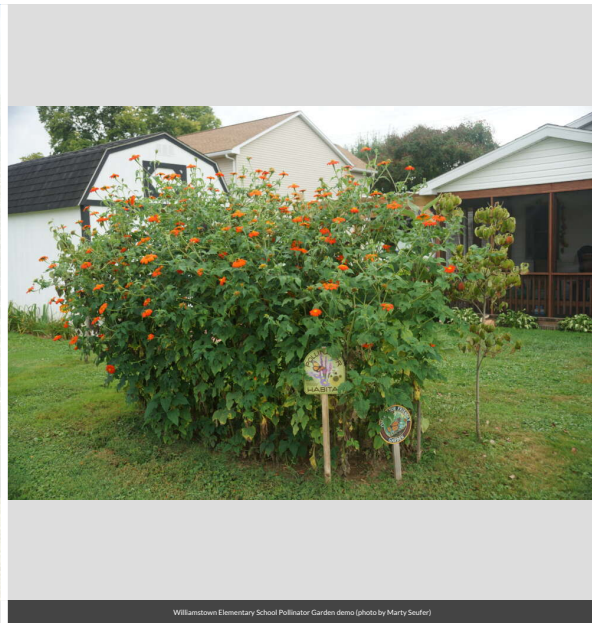
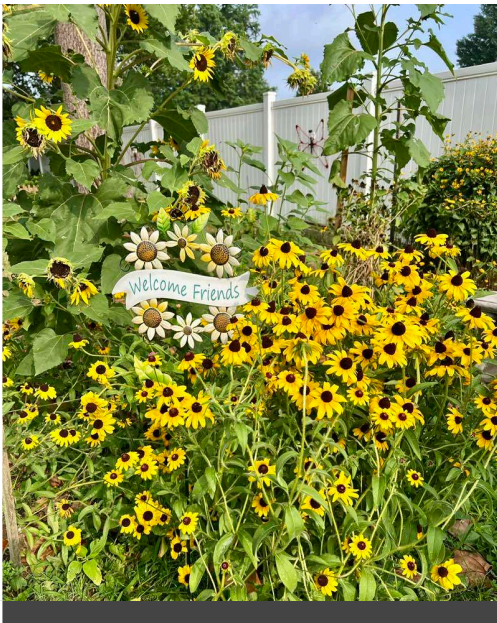
**3**

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

**12500**

*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
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- School garden



## Education & Outreach

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

The local library as well as the local Women's Club both planted pollinator gardens . The library included the children in their planting while the Women's Club utilized their membership in conjunction with our Bee City group. Also, in June our group participated in the Williamstown City Civic Day by manning a table, answering questions and distributing literature.

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

4

*How many people attended those events (in total)?*

75

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

2



Library Education (Photo by Edie Lemon)



Williamstown City Civic Day (photo by Edie Lemon)



West Virginia State Apiarist, Shanda King, brought a beehive demonstrator to show the children (photo by Edie Lemon)

Williamstown

Bee City USA<sup>TM</sup>

West Virginia

**1<sup>st</sup>**  
**In The**  
**State!**

Bee City USA is an initiative of the  XERCES SOCIETY  
for Invertebrate Conservation

## Policies & Practices

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

**We distributed literature on insecticides and their effect at both the City Civic Day as well as having the information available year around at the city building. Also, we spoke to several civic organizations on the subject.**

*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.*

**Making literature available and also working with the local master gardener group to educate.**

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

**No pesticides are allowed to be used in our boat ramp area located on the Ohio River.**

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

**Speaking to local civic organizations to spread the word. Also, we made literature available throughout the year.**

*Please check actions you have taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly.*

- Implemented or maintained a written 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)
- Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides on city or campus grounds
- Dropped pesticide use altogether 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 using “Buying Bee-Safe Plants” methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See <https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>)

- b. **Publicity & Information:** Install and maintain at least one authorized BEE CITY USA street sign in a prominent location, and create and maintain a webpage on the Williamstown, West Virginia city website which includes, at minimum a copy of this resolution and links to the national BEE CITY USA website; contact information for your BEE CITY USA Liaison and Committee; reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the community has accomplished the previous year(s); and your recommended native plant species list and integrated pest management plan (explained below).
- c. **Habitat:** Develop and implement a program to create or expand pollinator-friendly habitat on public and private land, which includes, but is not limited to, Identifying and inventorying Williamstown's real property that can be enhanced with pollinator-friendly plantings; creating a recommended locally native plant list to include wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees and a list of local suppliers for those species; and, tracking (by square footage and/or acreage) annual area of pollinator habitat created or enhanced.
- d. **Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management:** Create and adopt an integrated pest management (IPM) plan designed to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and expand the use of non-chemical pest management methods.
- e. **Policy & Plans:** Establish, through the City of Williamstown, WV, a policy to be entered into the record of the City Council minutes, to acknowledge and commit to the BEE CITY USA designation and review the Plan and other relevant documents to consider improvements to pest management policies and practices as they relate to pollinator conservation, identify appropriate locations for pollinator-friendly plantings, and consider other appropriate measures.
- f. **Renewal:** After completing the first calendar year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, each February, apply for renewal of Williamstown, WV's BEE CITY USA designation following the format provided by BEE CITY USA, including a report of the previous year's BEE CITY USA activities, and paying the renewal fee based on Williamstown, WV's population.

Policies as per our original resolution (photo by Marty Seufer)

*Any lessons learned you would like to share?*

Educate the youth.... they are the future. Also, we have gotten several experts in the field who utilize our Facebook page to update events and educate.

Committee Photo



Learn More

**Integrated Pest Management Plan:** [ipmwtown.pdf](https://williamstownwv.org/assets/craft/bee-city-usa/other/ipmwtown.pdf)

<https://williamstownwv.org/assets/craft/bee-city-usa/other/ipmwtown.pdf>

**Recommended Native Plant List:**

<https://www.gardenia.net/native-plants/west-virginia>

**Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:**

<https://sunfarm.com/>

<https://williamstownwv.org/wv-bee-city-usa>

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1315399062290123>