

# Bee City USA - Davidson

Report on 2021

## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

A local girl scout troop used their cookie sale profits to purchase pollinator-friendly perennials to plant behind Davidson Elementary, next to a future outdoor classroom space. The girl scouts planted 5 species of milkweed, as well as sedum, bee balm, and perennial sunflower. They then decorated flags to place on stakes so keep the plants from being mowed or trampled. We are certain to have happy pollinators later this summer! Davidson hosted 4 tree plantings, involving 45 volunteers in 2021. A total of 133 trees, including 15 different species, were planted at different locations on town streets and in local parks. Over 20 students and staff from the Community School of Davidson gathered at the Nature Observatory behind Davidson K8 School to improve the nature area, known as the Nature Observatory, behind the school. Students mulched trails, repaired bridges, and cleared an area of brush and invasives for a second outdoor classroom space. On May 1st, a group of 18 volunteers worked hard to clear debris and trash from the woods at Beaty Park to celebrate Around Town Day, a day of service.



Girl Scout Pollinator Project



Native Tree Planting



Habitat Improvement at Local Park

## Education & Outreach

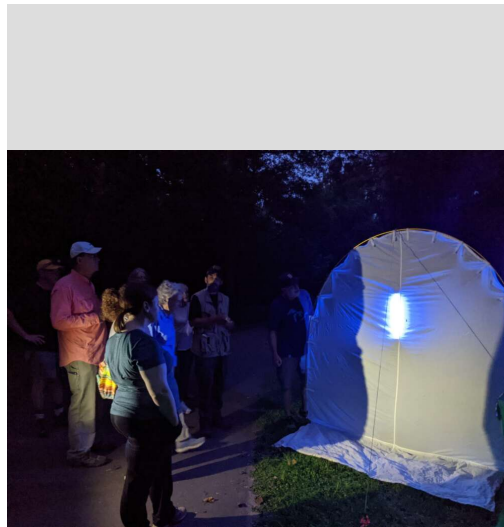
Davidson Bee City hosted an event at a local park to mark fields with concentrations of milkweed. This action is to prevent the fields from being mowed for hay and to educate the public on the importance of milkweed for the Monarch butterfly lifecycle. Kids colored flags with butterfly themes that were posted on stakes around the field. Information about the Monarch lifecycle was also presented. We co-hosted a citizen science event with the county to celebrate National Moth Week in July. People brought their flashlights and met at dusk to learn about moths. Baited tarps were set up with lights shining from behind to attract several Lepidopteran species. Close to 70 moth species were identified as well other insects,



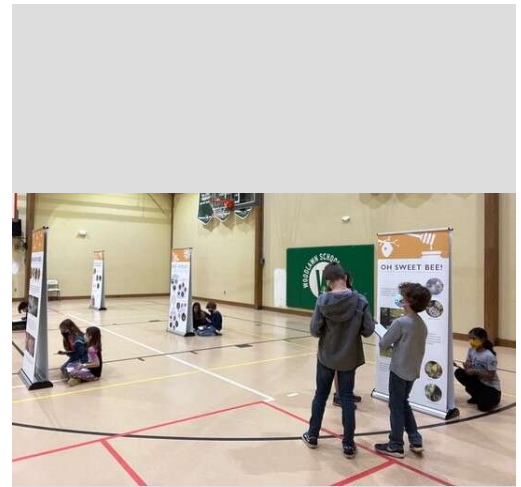
including a Triceratops beetle. A pollinator exhibit from the NC botanical garden, Bee-hold the Humble Pollinator, was presented for two weeks at a local school. Here the children were able to learn about the importance of bees. The exhibit was then moved to the Parks and Recreation Department for observation by local citizens. Lastly, the exhibit was set up at a local retirement community for two days before being returned. We also hosted an outing on birds for adults and one on insects for children.



Marking Milkweed Fields



Moth Observation and Education



Beehold the Humble Pollinator Exhibit

## Policies & Practices

The Town of Davidson North Carolina is continuing to research best practices, is actively phasing out glyphosate use, and exploring organics as they develop. Over the past year, the town has selected six parks for a new program to reduce turf spraying. The town has also avoided the use of pesticides in all designated pollinator habitat. In the coming year, the town will increase the use of organic products or natural methods used at the six parks. Increase the number of town staff trained on the use of organic products and non-toxic landscape management. Implementing these new methods and products will be a great learning experience and support the creation an IPM plan in the future that is a good fit for the town.

### Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List: [Native Wildflowers of North Carolina.pdf](#)



<https://ncwildflower.org/native-plant-handouts/>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Sources for Native Plants.pdf](#)

## IPM Related Plans and Policies

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In the coming year, the town will: Increase the use of organic products or natural methods used at the six parks. Increase the number of town staff trained on the use of organic products and non-toxic landscape management. Community volunteers will provide recommendations for the home landscape and share why these methods are beneficial. Implementing these new methods and products will be a great learning experience and support the creation an IPM plan in the future that is a good fit for the town.

Davidson NC IPM Statement

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Learn More

<https://davidsonlands.org>

