

Bee City USA - Virginia Beach

Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

VB Bee City USA Pollinator Garden Dedication: The City of Virginia Beach dedicated a newly created Pollinator Garden at Redwing Park on June 23, 2021. The dedication was to recognize the Bee City USA designation, Pollinator Month and to begin creating areas for all pollinators. The dedication was attended by approximately 50-60 people, including Mayor Dyer, Michael Kirschman, Parks & Recreation Director, Virginia Tech Research Center team members, Lynnhaven River Now team members, the Bee City USA team members from the Virginia Beach Council of Garden Clubs as well as local reporters and citizens interested in creating habitat and protecting pollinators. Other distinguished guest included many pollinators who were happy to fly about the garden and feed on the abundant nectar. After the ceremony tours were given to share a variety of plants that provide nectar to our pollinator friends. Botanical signage was created for each species and the list includes – Blueberries, Agastache, Mountain Mint, Zinnias, Lantana, Coneflowers, Black-eyed Susan's, and Asters to name a few. Bee City VB members gave away pollinator friendly plants to the attendees and educated visitors about the importance of pollinators. A permanent sign was installed to highlight Virginia Beach's commitment to promote, protect and create habitat for Pollinators. The newly established pollinator garden is maintained pesticide free. Pollinator month events will occur in this garden annually in June. Bee CityVB Pollinator Garden Dedication YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/FtVUXj1Zo1w>. Fun fact: There are 80 food crops in Virginia, including blueberries, strawberries, and peaches, that rely on honeybees for pollination! In celebration of National Pollinator Month, Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation is hosting a dedication ceremony of the Bee City USA® Pollinator Garden on June 23, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. in Red Wing Park. The ceremony will showcase the new garden, a healthy habitat designed with a rich variety of native plants to sustain pollinators like bees, butterflies, and moths that are responsible for fertilization, seed, and fruit production. In 2020, Virginia Beach became a Bee City USA affiliate, joining many other cities and campuses across the country united in improving their landscapes for pollinators. The Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach and Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation led efforts to accomplish this certification, which not only supports bees but all native pollinators. Following the dedication, the pollinator garden will become the future location of annual pollinator events each June and is also available for weddings.





Bee City VB Pollinator Garden – Redwing Park



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Education & Outreach

You Me & the Bees Trifold: The VB Bee City committee created a trifold to hand out at events that educate the public about our mission, Bee significance, fun Bee facts, pollinator friendly plants and how individuals can help protect bees. Additionally, a local beekeeper and esteemed member of the VB Bee City team, Mr. Frank Walker provided his contact information for people concerned about beehives on their property. He or his colleagues will respond to those calls and remove the hive from the property and educate the public to decrease the occurrences of bee kills.



Policies & Practices

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [20210305 - IPM Plan - FINAL.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [VB 2021 Grow Native Trees For Bees.pdf](#)

<https://vnps.org/native-plant-nursery-list/>

Learn More

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<https://instagram.com/beecityvb>





Bee City VB Team Members braving the weather to educate the public about pollinators and pollinator trees! From L-R: Betty Ann Des Roches, Co Bee City Lead Susan French, City Arborist, Symsi Denson, Bee City Liaison Demaris Yearick, Co Bee City VB Lead, Kathy Q, Bee City VB member

