



# Bee City USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO



## EDUCATION & OUTREACH



This report about Burque Bee City USA- Albuquerque presents information on the origins of the project, and then offers a listing of Albuquerque's BCU related activities in 2018.

Think Like A Bee, with generous support of many sponsors, including the NM Beekeepers Association, worked closely with Albuquerque City Council to create a Bee City USA designation. Councilors Isaac Benton, who initiated the resolution, along with Brad Winter, co-sponsored the final resolution which unanimously passed at City Council in August, 2016. Albuquerque is the first Bee City USA in the Southwest and we're excited to belong to a community of Bee Cities throughout the country.

The Burque Bee City USA committee had their first meeting on January 19th. Participants in the committee and associated programs are listed in the Policies and Practices Section below. The Burque Bee City committee continued to meet and plan the various spring and summer activities for 2018.

In March the Open Space Visitor Center hosted the Certified Beekeepers Apprentice Program, which is organized through the New Mexico Beekeepers Association in cooperation with the City of Albuquerque. This comprehensive program provides quality education on backyard beekeeping in the context of responsible urban farming. Classes are taught by recognized, expert New Mexico beekeepers and include supervised, hands-on lessons, using top-bar and Langstroth honeybee hives. Students who completed the two-year curriculum and 40 hours of volunteer service were awarded a Beekeepers Certification. The Open Space Visitor Center also hosted the ABQ Beeks Mentorship program, a public program pairing local beekeepers to mentors.

In June the Visitor Center hosted the Council of All Beings, which serves to educate students about pollinators and the importance of habitat. Participants used the space to create an indigenous circle process of storytelling and art for the students to learn about their favorite creature and give voice to that creature's wisdom for us as humans today.

June 16<sup>th</sup> was the Burque Bee City and Pollination Celebration at the Open Space Visitor Center. This event kicked off National Pollinator Week 2018 with an all ages event. 193 people participated in the event which included artwork by the New Mexico Clay and Potters Association and pollinator mud stencil art with artist Rachel Zollinger.

## POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



Throughout the summer of 2018, Open Space educators helped promote pollinator habitat protection through the Summer Series of talks and Open Space hikes, in addition to programming at the Visitor Center. The Center maintains several gardens including a permaculture field, the Traditions Garden, the Pueblo Courtyard Garden, a dedicated Pollinator Garden, and landscaping with native plants. All landscaping at the Visitor Center emphasizes native plants and pollinator-friendly habitat.

## POLICIES & PRACTICES



- Anita Amstutz, Committee head NM Beeks and [www.thinklikeabee.org](http://www.thinklikeabee.org)
- Sally Vance, Albuquerque Garden Center
- Mary Ann Brewington, Albuquerque Garden Center
- Annette Colbert, beekeeper
- Hanaa Benhalim, NM Beeks Association
- Jessie Brown, NM Beeks Association
- Kent Swanson, Open Space Visitor Center Manager
- Noel Chilton, Open Space Visitor Center Education Coordinator
- Brianda Reza, Open Space Visitor Center Assistant Education Coordinator
- Lois Reno, NM Beek Association
- Sue George, Wild Friends
- Sean Ludden, Rio Grande Community Farms
- Beth Arnold, Rio Grande Community Farms
- Kemper Barkhurst, Rio Grande Community Farms
- Amy Owen, Beekeeper
- George Miller, President, Albuquerque Chapter New Mexico Native Plant Society

**Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List**—<http://bernalilloextension.nmsu.edu/>

**Regional Native Plant Supplier List**—<https://plantsouthwest.com/pages/index-of-plants>

**Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan**—<https://www.cabq.gov/environmentalhealth/urban-biology/pest-management>

## CONTACT US!

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**Website**—<https://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/open-space/bee-city-usa>

**Social Media**—<https://www.facebook.com/burquebeecityusa/>