



Bee City USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education



MEQUON, WISCONSIN

EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Beekeeping

The local Bee Club held 12 public meetings located at Mequon Nature Preserve throughout the year. On average, there are around 60 individuals at each meeting who are interested in bee keeping or related topics. The Bee Club brings in professional bee keepers from Indian Summer Honey Farms to give educational talks at the meetings and also provides bee hive tours and demonstrations at the apiary located on the Mequon Nature Preserve. The Bee Club also had a booth at the Winter Frolic which was held February 2nd. Attendees could discuss bee keeping topics as well as pollinator friendly habitats with the local bee keepers. Winter Frolic had close to 3000 attendees.

Arbor Day/Native Trees

The City of Mequon hosted an Arbor Day event on Sunday, April 29th. The event helped spread awareness for native tree species and pollinator friendly habitat. Local residents could interact with members of the Bee Club and Mequon Nature Preserve if they had questions on planting and maintaining native trees and shrubs. Approximately 200 city residents attended the event.

Pollinator Gardening Series

The Mequon Nature Preserve hosted a lecture series based on gardening and creating pollinator friendly

habitat. The lecture was sponsored by American Transmission Company and there were 150 individuals who attended each of the lectures. Melinda Myers (<https://www.melindamyers.com/>) was the speaker for each of the 5 lectures focusing on forbs.

POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



A bee garden was established on Mequon Nature Preserve in close proximity to the apiary with help from the Bee Club, school groups, and volunteers. In total, 50 people help plant and maintain the garden. The planting started on June 4th with varying groups helping throughout the week. The local news station was also involved covering aspects of the local bee club and the garden.

<https://fox6now.com/2018/06/04/mequon-nature-preserve-hosting-ever-growing-group-of-bee-enthusiasts/>

The garden is made up of 60 native species of wildflowers with varying bloom times. This garden gives the honey bees and native bees a nectar source from May through October increasing their pollination productivity.

A second pollinator garden was installed near the Mequon Nature Preserve headquarters. Staff, volunteers and representatives from the American Transmission Company, totaling 75 individuals, helped seed and plant a variety of native, pollinator-friendly forbs in an area that is transmission line right-of-way and infested with invasive species. This was accomplished throughout the week of June 18th. Both of these events were hosted by the committee.

POLICIES & PRACTICES

The Mequon Nature Preserve provides leadership for Bee City USA – Mequon. Our goal here at Mequon Nature Preserve is to protect and preserve 444 continuous acres of pollinator friendly habitat. We provide education and outreach to 5000 students yearly through fieldtrips. Our committee prides itself in sharing our successful restoration efforts with communities around the area and around the country.

The IPM and recommended native species list have been used to gauge our restoration efforts on the Mequon Nature Preserve property. Our findings and successful management techniques are used in other areas to help restore and amend natural areas around Mequon and surrounding municipalities.

Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List—<https://www.kb.jnplants.com/native-plant-guide/>
<http://www.agrecol.com/NativeWildflowerPlants>

Regional Native Plant Supplier List—<https://www.jnplants.com/>
<http://www.agrecol.com/>

Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan—<https://mequonnaturepreserve.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Mequon-Nature-Preserve-Master-Plan-6-2006.pdf>

CONTACT US!

Committee—Mequon Nature Preserve, Inc.

Website—<https://www.ci.mequon.wi.us/community/page/bee-city-usa>

Social Media—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MequonNaturePreserveBeeClub/>