



Bee City USA Annual Report Pollinator Conservation & Education 2019



Mequon, Wisconsin

EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Bee City Liaison Kristin Gies teaching about native plantings



Bee club booth at Winter Frolic 2019

The local Bee Club holds 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 conserving native bees, beekeeping, or related topics. The Bee Club brings in professional beekeepers from Indian Summer Honey Farms to give educational talks at the meetings and also provides beehive tours and demonstrations at the apiary located on the Mequon Nature Preserve. The City of Mequon hosted an Arbor Day event on Sunday, April 28th. 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. The Mequon Nature preserve hosted two pollinator events on September 7th. There was a guided pollinator hike put on by the UW extension office as well as a monarch tagging event. There were 50 individuals that attended those events. The Mequon Nature Preserve hosted a lecture based on gardening and creating pollinator friendly habitat. The lecture was sponsored by Milwaukee Metro Sewage District and there were 200 attendees. Melinda Myers (<https://www.melindamyers.com/>) was the speaker. The Bee Club also had a booth at

the Winter Frolic which was held February 2nd. Attendees could discuss beekeeping topics as well as pollinator friendly habitats with the local beekeepers. Winter Frolic had close to 3000 attendees.



Monarch tagging event



Bumble bee during the pollinator hike



Bee club table at Arbor Day

POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



volunteers pulling invasive buckthorn



Volunteers helping pull garlic mustards



Volunteers from Associated Bank planting trees

Over the course of the summer, volunteers from community businesses helped remove invasive species growing around the Mequon Nature Preserve property. The invasive species managed were buckthorn, dame's rocket, and garlic mustard. There were approximately 150 individuals from various businesses that volunteered. On June 1st, approximately 50 Concordia University students volunteered and planted over 500 native trees and shrubs and a previously fallow field. On June 7th, the City of

Mequon along with MNP helped lead Donges Bay elementary school with pulling invasive species like garlic mustard and dames rocket within one of the city parks. There were about 70 individuals involved. Every Thursday throughout the summer, individuals can volunteer at Mequon Nature Preserve as part of the Restoration Rangers. During these days, volunteers can help with seeding new prairie areas, planting trees and removing invasive species on the 444 acre preserve. Approximately 30 people volunteered throughout the summer.

Mequon Nature Preserve also reseeded approximately 5 acres of buffer strips and also removed 6 acres of farmland to restore it back to its historic habitat.

POLICIES & PRACTICES

90 percent of the invasive species control consists of hand pulling and mowing during strategic times of the year where control will be most effective. Spot herbicide treatment is only used when absolutely necessary to control large stands of invasive species.

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/>