

Bee City USA - Santa Barbara

Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Las Positas Multiuse Path Project (Onsite Mitigation) City of Santa Barbara Public Works Department & Rincon Consultants The Las Positas Multiuse Path Project required three offsite mitigations for Upland Habitat (1.48 Acres of Upland Habitat was been added along Veterans Walk), Trees (104 Coast Live Oaks) and Riparian Habitat at Mesa Creek (4.12 acres of riparian habitat restoration with the removal of 12 invasive trees). As of March 10, 2022 the following container plants and seeds have already been or will be installed in the near future, which is a mixture of mitigation and landscaping. Additionally, these totals don't account for the approx. 65 additional trees (29 additional Island Oaks and 36 Coast Live Oaks) that the City is still considering. • 44 Coast Live Oaks • 74 Island Oaks • 1 California Buckeye • 547 ornamental native shrubs and forbs • 0.11 acres of riparian seeding • 1.17 acres of coastal sage scrub seeding

Arroyo Burro Open Space Restoration City of Santa Barbara Creeks Division Project elements include restoration improvements along Arroyo Burro and the Campanil drainage (a tributary to Arroyo Burro), the creation of formal trail routes, and the installation of a pedestrian bridge over the creek that will connect park visitors to Las Positas Road and the multi-use path currently under construction. The project included the planting of over 2,600 native container plants, including 350 native trees and additional Arroyo Willow stakes. The project covered about 2.5 acres, or 108,900 square feet. The restoration of this important habitat will benefit wildlife species specifically birds and pollinators and improve park aesthetics on site for public enjoyment.

City Parks Garden Bed Plantings City Parks Division In 2021, the Parks Division enhanced a number of planter beds throughout City Parks and at the Santa Barbara Golf Course. These locations include some of our highest profile park spaces visited by tourists and locals alike such as the Chase Palm Park Beach House, Casa Las Palmas, and Skater's Point; the Waterfront; and Franceschi Park. At the municipal Golf Course, many planter beds were enhanced in the main entrance, the parking lot, the clubhouse, and along Las Positas Road where the course is most visible to passersby. One of the most notable installations in late 2021 to early 2022 was at Bohnett Park, for which we received CDBG grant funding to renovate this park that serves a low-income community. Our team installed about 700 flowering plants that tolerate our dry Mediterranean climate including Aloe rubroviolacea, Ceanothus, 'Joyce Coulter', Cistus x pulverulentus 'Sunset', Correa 'Rays Tangerine', Galvezia speciose 'Boca Rosa', Grevillea lanigera 'Prostrate', Hesperaloe parviflora, Rosemarinus officinalis 'Lockwood De Forest', Salvia Gerggii 'Furmans Red', and Westringia 'Blue Gem'.





Bohnett Park Plant Staging



Bohnett Park Plant Flagging



Bohnett Park Plant Installation

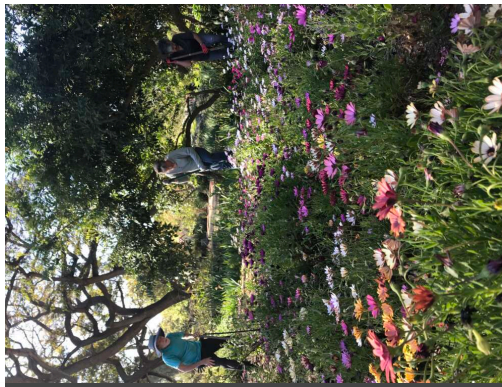
Education & Outreach

Alice Keck Park Memorial Garden Butterfly Garden UC Master Gardeners of Santa Barbara County & City Parks Division Since 2005, a 4,300 square foot area of the Alice Keck Park Memorial Garden has been a demonstration Butterfly Garden. It is a mix of common ornamental and California native plants that support pollinators and are drought tolerant. In 2021, the Master Gardeners contributed 226.5 hours of work, mostly focused on maintaining the garden through a dry winter and getting back to volunteering after the Covid-19 pandemic. This garden encourages residents and visitors to plant their own butterfly or pollinator gardens. The Master Gardeners and City Parks Division are working on a Memorandum of Understanding that would allow the group to expand their education and outreach activities at the garden during volunteer hours. Monarchs and Native Pollinators SBEE Garden Project The Santa Barbara Ecological and Edible Garden Project (SBEE Garden Project) is a collaboration between the Santa Barbara City College, Explore Ecology, and five community partners who have teamed up under a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to create a network of community permaculture gardens that promote biodiversity, increase access to locally grown food, and foster a connection between the community and ecosystems. In April 2021 Research Biologist, Charis van der Heide, and SBBG Director of Conservation and Research, Denise Knapp, gave a joint presentation on the population decline of Western Monarch Butterflies and what people can do to help protect them and their habitat. 63 people attended this free, online event. California Pollinators in Peril: Native Plants to the Rescue Channel Islands Restoration Channel Islands Restoration is a local non-profit that works to restore habitat on the California Channel Islands and adjacent mainland, educate groups about the value of native habitat and how to protect it, and develop public and private funding sources for habitat restoration programs. In May 2021, SBBG Director of Conservation and Research, Denise Knapp, gave a presentation for Channel Islands Restoration group on what is causing a decline in insects observed around the globe, and more importantly, what YOU can do about it. Denise highlighted how native plants and their insect pollinators have evolved together and how differences in sizes, shapes, timing and techniques are critical to moving pollen and maintaining the diversity of life. 254 people signed up and roughly 180 – 200 attendees throughout this free, online event.





Butterfly Garden in Alice Keck Park Memorial Garden



Master Gardener Volunteers in African Daisy Bed



Butterfly Garden Interpretive Sign with Map

Policies & Practices

Since 2004, the City of Santa Barbara has had a robust Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Strategy to promote environmentally sensitive pest management while preserving assets and protecting the health and safety of the public and our employees. The IPM Strategy seeks to reduce the use of pesticide products that pose known, likely, or probable human health or environmental risks and promote the use of non-hazardous and/or reduced risk alternatives. The Strategy establishes a clear criteria for pesticide use in structures, landscapes, and other grounds and requires that pesticides be applied in a manner that protects and enhances our region’s natural resources and public health. The Strategy is accompanied by a PHAER Zone System and an Approved Materials List that help determine what kind of pest control materials can used and where. The majority of City Parks are designated ‘green’ or pesticide free with some ‘yellow’ parks and ‘floating yellow zones’ inside of ‘green’ parks for vegetative fuels management. The IPM Strategy is largely administered through the IPM Advisory Committee, which meets quarterly to review and advise pest control needs throughout City lands property. Parks staff and Committee members prepare an Annual Report that is presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Since establishing this strategy, City Parks pesticide usage has dropped 97%.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [IPM Strategy Final Version.pdf](https://www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/depts/parksrec/parks/stewardship/ipm/default.asp)

<https://www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/depts/parksrec/parks/stewardship/ipm/default.asp>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.sbbg.org/sites/default/files/Fall%202019%20AVAILABILITY%20LIST.pdf>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://www.sbbg.org/explore-garden/nursery>





Elings Park, Hillside restoration

Learn More

<https://www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/depts/parksrec/parks/beecity/default.asp>
CRLam@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

<https://facebook.com/sbparksandrec>

<https://www.instagram.com/sbparksandrec>

<https://twitter.com/sbparksandrec>





Elings Park, Hillside being restored

