



Bee City USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Volunteers pass out butterfly brochures in front of City Hall.

Ever mindful of local pollinator species at risk, such as the federally listed endangered Mission Blue butterfly and the locally threatened Green Hairstreak butterfly, San Francisco is committed to reducing pesticide use on City properties and restoring natural habitats. The city has been making a special effort to convert pavement to front yard gardens in the Sunset District, while at the same time, enhancing the livability of neighborhoods, creating more sustainable habitats, and keeping bees and other pollinators healthy.

San Francisco was initially certified as a Bee City USA affiliate in 2016. That fall, through a partnership with Bay Friendly Landscaping (Rescape California) and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the SF Department of Environment announced a four-day training on sustainable landscaping practices, including reduced pesticide use and water conservation. Landscape professionals who completed the course earned the Bay-Friendly Qualified Professional qualification and became stewards of pollinator-friendly practices that will ultimately impact hundreds of homes and gardens in San Francisco.

To experience pollinator habitat in San Francisco and learn about gardening with native plants, visit:

[California Native Plant Garden](#) (in the SF Botanical Garden)

The California Native Plant Garden is one of many gardens within the SF Botanical Garden. Open daily, starting at 7:30am. Last entry changes seasonally (between 4pm-6pm). Free to San Francisco residents and school groups.

[Land's End Trail](#) (in Golden Gate National Park)

Got sandy soil? Find out the native plants that grow well in San Francisco's sandy [dunes](#). Walk the Land's End trail above the Cliff House to experience native habitat that has been carefully restored by volunteers. Public transportation: Take the 38 Geary bus West to the end of the line.

[Dolores Pollinator Boulevard](#) (on Dolores & Market Street)

The Dolores Pollinator Boulevard is a streetside demonstration garden in the street median of Dolores Street and Market (south-west side of the street).

[Habitat Gardens](#) (at San Francisco State University)

The San Francisco State University sustainability project has a habitat garden on campus.

[The Bee Farm](#) (with San Francisco Bee-Cause)

The Bee Farm has volunteer work parties on the third Saturday of the month at San Bruno Ave and Ordway.

POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



Delores Boulevard is an example of a public/private partnership to integrate pollinator habitat into San Francisco. Base Landscape Architects led the Delores Boulevard effort.

It was extremely exciting that when the Presidio Trust restored the dunes and grasses at the Presidio National Park, a former military base, the silver digger bees (*Habropoda miserabilis*) that once thrived there returned!

POLICIES & PRACTICES

Many local NGOs message about protecting and restoring for local pollinators and implement work that restores and stewards habitat for local pollinators. In addition, the City agencies are increasingly messaging and making an effort to plant through a healthy pollinators lens, notably the Recreation and Parks Department and the Department of Public Works.

We have an interagency biodiversity working group that is collaborating to elevate attention and resources to incorporating more and more biodiversity and natural habitat throughout the built environment of the city, in addition to the parks and natural areas.

San Francisco has an IPM ordinance that all City agencies have to follow. We are in the process of making sfplantfinder.org and the lists therein to be obligatory for City Departments.

Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List— <http://sfplantfinder.org/>

Regional Native Plant Supplier List— <https://sfenvironment.org/plant-nurseries-bee-friendly>

Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan— <http://sfenvironment.org/ipm>

CONTACT US!

Committee—A new committee is being formed. The chair is Peter Brastow, Senior Biodiversity Coordinator, San Francisco Environment Department. (peter.brastow@sfgov.org)

Website— <https://sfenvironment.org/article/protect-our-local-pollinators-birds-bees-butterflies-bats/>