



Bee City USA Annual Report Pollinator Conservation & Education 2019



Winston-Salem, North Carolina

EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Locating the queen bee at the Pollinator Party



Bee City table at the Fall 2019 Plant Sale

On June 22, 2019, from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m., during National Pollinator Week, the Bee City USA affiliate hosted a Pollinator Party at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds Farmers Market to celebrate pollinators. The event included educational opportunities, honey sales, an observation hive, and children's activities.

The Winston-Salem City Council unanimously adopted a resolution to become the 75th Bee City USA affiliate, and 2019 was our first full year as a Bee City USA community. The Community Sustainability Program Committee serves as the advisory group, a requirement for Bee City USA.

Our first educational outreach site was hosting a table, with the city's Office of Sustainability, at the 2019 Piedmont Earth Day Fair, sponsored by Piedmont Environmental Alliance. The event, held each April, is the largest Earth Day celebration in central North Carolina.

In May of 2019, Recreation & Parks, as well as the city's Community Development Department, assisted the Carolina Panthers on a "Keep Pounding Day" service project. A pollinator booklet, created

by city staff, was distributed and highlighted the importance of pollinators. Several local news outlets reported on the service project, which in turn serves as educational outreach and awareness.

On June 17, 2019, Mayor Allen Joines proclaimed the week of June 17-23, 2019, as National Pollinator Week in Winston-Salem and included a branded social media campaign, that raised awareness about the vital role pollinators play to our ecosystems.



2019 Community Roots Day



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Keep Pounding Day Service project at Quarry Park

The Bee City USA liaison and Operations Department staff created an ArcGIS Story Map that focused on projects occurring at our city parks and the Gateway Nature Preserve as well as the Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful Flower Bed Program. View the 2019 Story Map here: <http://cows.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=4fe9c6a16b5e425e83422147acce934>

In October, Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful held its annual tree-planting project that coordinates with the WS/FC Community Appearance Commission, The Office of Sustainability, and the Vegetation Management Division of the city. Bee City USA hosted a table and distributed native seed packets and a one-page informational flier about pollination and what it means to be a Bee City USA affiliate. The event plants over 200 trees, some native, during the annual event.

Reynolda Gardens of Wake Forest University hosted Meadowfest, a family-friendly event that celebrates a 16-acre tract of golf links that was converted into a thriving meadow of native plants and grasses.

Bee City hosted a table at the 2019 Fall Extension Master Gardener Plant Sale. This was a fitting opportunity to share information about Bee City USA with the public and Master Gardeners.

POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT

In January, the city's Human Relations Department sponsored Helping Hands Day, a volunteer opportunity for city employees in cooperation with HandsOn Northwest North Carolina.

One service project from the initiative was to assist the Gateway Nature Preserve with clearing debris and removing invasive species from its wildlife trail, called the Forest Discovery Trail. Over 25 city employees participated in the service project.



In May of 2019, the City of Winston-Salem Recreation & Parks and Community Development Departments assisted the Carolina Panthers in a pollination station service project. Together, children and community partners planted twelve native pollinator-friendly plant species in the park; an outcome that butterflies, bees, birds, and other pollinators need to survive.

In December 2019, The Winston-Salem Foundation announced a centennial grant of \$125,000 to create sustainable pollinator gardens at Quarry Park. The grant will be used for site and soil preparation, an irrigation system, and educational signage. The project is expected to start in the spring of 2020.

In FY 2019-2020, Vegetation Management, a division of the Property & Facilities Management Department, will incorporate native pollinator plants. Native pollinating plants and flowers tolerate our climate, soil, and topography. The city's goal is to gradually increase the use of native plants throughout Winston-Salem.



POLICIES & PRACTICES

Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List —

<https://www.cityofws.org/DocumentCenter/View/13353/Suggested-Native-Plant-List>

Regional Native Plant Supplier List —

<https://www.cityofws.org/DocumentCenter/View/13354/Bee-City-General-Information-Flier>

Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan — not available

CONTACT US!

Committee — Community Sustainability Program Committee, Sara Pesek

Website — <https://www.cityofws.org/921/Bee-City-USA>

Social Media — not available