

Bee City USA - City of Woodland

Report on 2020

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Two large pollinator enhancement projects were carried out in 2020 on Main Street, with the help of a local contractor and community volunteers. An additional pollinator habitat at City Hall's Edible Learning Garden continues to thrive. There is roughly 1,200 square feet of pollinator-friendly landscapes in Downtown Woodland thanks to City-led enhancement projects. A Pollinator Pathway, or a corridor of primarily native pollinator plants that provide nutrition and habitat for pollinators, was created in Downtown Woodland in May 2020. The City's Economic Development Division worked closely with the UC Davis Arboretum, who through their Learning by Leading program, developed a planting plan for over 100 colorful flowering pollinator friendly plants including: Aloe spinose, Teucrium 'Azureum', Achillea millefolium Ritzy Ruby, Nepeta 'Purple Haze', amongst others. These flowers now brighten up the "Welcome to Woodland" signs at the entrance of Main Street, the median across from the Weisman building, and 10 street corners between 1st and 3rd Street. Montoy's Landscaping, the same contractors that carried out the landscaping work at City Hall's Edible Learning Garden, planted these new drought-resistant plants, added much needed compost to the soil, installed drip irrigation, and laid down mulch. The 8.5 cubic yards of mulch used for this project were donated by local landscaping company, C L Smith. These Bee City USA-triggered Main Street improvements complement the work that Jerry Kennedy from AIM carried out last year when he welded the brackets for the hanging flower baskets that have brought color to our lampposts alongside The Food Front flag signs. Although we were not able to hold the CA Honey Festival this year, this project paves the way to welcome & nourish our local pollinators to our City Center and keep our new plants healthy and happy.





Urban Pollination Pathway on Main Street. Photo credit AI Eby.

Education & Outreach

May 2020: “Plant Your Ideas & Just Add Water” Two day Virtual Workshop: Twenty two community participants from Woodland participated in the workshop. Hosted by the City’s Environmental Services and led by community planting experts, the annual Water-Wise Landscape Tour shifted towards a “Plant Your Ideas & Just Add Water” Virtual Workshop. This two-day workshop targeted community members interested in transitioning their gardens / lawns towards one that included pollinator and draught resistant plants. Before the workshop, each participant received prep materials including: an aerial image of their garden, a native/pollinator/drought resistant plant list. Participants were also asked to do some homework before the workshop such as: taking pictures and measurements of their garden, brainstorming what they want to change about their garden, creating a “wish list” indicating plant or plant quality ideas. • Example of a participant’s wish list: o Save water o Have year round beauty o Provide a habitat for pollinators and birds o Decrease maintenance o



Increase shade o Conceal trash/recycling bins o Create a clear division between my yard and the street, or my neighbor, etc. The first day focused on showing participants an array of pollinator and drought resistant plants, landscaping options, and time for Q&A. The second day zoned in on the basics of irrigation, the tools needed to install or repair irrigation tubing, and what to consider when installing a system. The overarching goal was for participants to gain new inspiration to convert their yards towards more “responsible” plants. The format of the workshop was a mix of lectures and break out sessions on Zoom. Participants that attended both days were entered in a raffle to win books on water wise landscaping. 2.2

September 2020: Parks 4 Pollinators virtual event: Twenty one people confirmed via the Facebook invite and email confirmation. It is possible that others participated virtually as the event could be accessed directly through the iNaturalist application. The City’s Community Services “Parks and Rec” jumped on the National Recreation and Park Association’s national effort to celebrate pollinators through the Parks 4 Pollinators virtual event. The event ran the entire month of September, with the goal of incentivizing our community to track pollinators and pollinator friendly plants in city parks and green spaces through the iNaturalist app. With the iNaturalist app, participants were prompted to take pictures of a pollinator (bee, butterfly, bat, etc.) or pollinator-friendly plant, and upload them for other community members to help identify. The objective was to get individuals and families out in City parks to explore local nature and wildlife and take part in citizen science.

Policies & Practices

We have resorted to mulching practices to avoid using herbicides. For a 2021 project, we have resorted to sheet mulching to remove grass without the use of chemicals.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [Integrated Pest Management Plan.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [POLLINATOR PLANTS City Hall & Main Street.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Native Plant Supplier List.pdf](#)

Learn More

<https://www.cityofwoodland.org/1098/Bee-City-USA>

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