

Bee City USA - Burlington

Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

**Champlain School: The Champlain School K-5 community, along with about 20 volunteers from Grow Wild, Burlington HS Environmental Justice Club, UVM City and Lake Semester students, planted a corridor of 200 trees and shrubs to outdoor classrooms 1 and 2. Teachers report that students have been eating lunch next to “their” trees! The multi-generational collaboration is a visceral representation of the relationship of people and institutions. ** Lakeview Cemetery: planned and planted a native perennial pollinator garden at the entrance of the cemetery. 2 city reps and 2 Grow Wild volunteers assisted in the planting. Another 2 plots near the entry turn-around are also planned. ** Tommy Thompson Community Garden-the City of Burlington Parks Recreation and Waterfront Department received a grant to participate in the Xerces Northeast Monarch and Pollinator Habitat Kit Planting Program for 2021. During the first week of June, BPRW will be installing four different pollinator habitat gardens at Tommy Thompson Community Garden in a range of soil conditions from wet to drier with support from a team of natural area stewards as part of a city-wide initiative called Grow Wild. The pollinator habitat kits come with 650 native transplants and education materials. If you would like to get involved with this project, please join us for any of the workdays here: **Community Nursery Project to address ‘lack of plants’ available locally and industry-wide. Growing demand for native plants reflects that the word is spreading and the need to grow our own! The 311 site will have a hoop house soon as the beginning of a conservation nursery. **Continued planting of Native trees and shrubs along the Greenway/bikepath.





Installation of native pollinator garden at Lakeview Cemetery entrance.



A volunteer removes invasives before planting pollinator habitat in Tommy Thompson gardens in the intervalle.

Education & Outreach

Our Bee City Committee is folded into Grow Wild, a partnership that promotes biodiversity and climate resilience by creating more native plant habitat across public and private land in Burlington, Vermont. In 2021 we formalized our organization with the following MISSION STATEMENT: The built environments of Burlington offer tremendous potential to support declining native plant, insect, and bird populations. By revitalizing often overlooked, historically underutilized green spaces, we can expand, support, and inspire the creation of native plant habitat. Grow Wild provides scientifically informed educational materials and organizes volunteer-run projects throughout the city. Community and connection are at the heart of all we do. We achieve our goals with funding and other support from Burlington Wildways, Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department, Vermont Master Naturalist, and local volunteers. and GOALS: 1. Replace 30% of mowed turf and introduced species in Burlington with regionally native plants by 2030. 2. Create corridors of



native keystone trees and site-specific pollinator plants across the city to provide crucial host plant and floral resources necessary for insects and other wildlife to thrive. and, 3. Support ecologically sound landscape management to foster self-sustaining habitat. An active Education and outreach committee is developing a website and activities to carry out the mission and goals. It also developed a plantlist for pollinators according to soil conditions in the city:

<https://burlingtonwildways.org/sites/default/files/imce/uploads/Which-Native-Plants.pdf>

Learn how the wildlife corridor was built!

An amazing partnership

-We could not get this done without one very important partnership, Grow Wild. Grow Wild is an amazing partnership with Parks and Rec and Burlington Wild Ways!

-In this project they have partnered with Champlain. Their goal is to relocate and integrate trees across Burlington.

-They have donated and supported many necessary tools and instructions needed to build the corridor.

How we planted the trees

-First, we dug a hole that is as deep as the roots of the trees.

-Second, we put our tree in the hole and filled in around the tree with the dirt that has been dugged up.

-Lastly we build a donut shape around the tree with wood chips. We do this to insure that the tree retains moisture.





Basic Native Plants for Sunny Areas - Burlington VT						#/108 Sq ft Plot	Notes
Bloom Season	Plant Name	Plant Width	Plant Height	Bloom Color			
Early	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> (black chokeberry)	3-6'	4-6'	White	1	A shrub. Named cultivars will still provide floral resources for pollinators and larger berries for you and the birds.	
Early-Mid	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> (foxglove beardtongue)	1.5'	1-3'	White	5	Allow it to reseed. Flower shape important for long-tongued bumble bees.	
Mid-Late	<i>Hypericum</i> sp: <i>H. proflificum</i> or <i>H. kalmianum</i> (shrubby St. John's-wort)	3'	3-5'	Yellow	1	Small shrub. Both species are significant pollen sources for multiple insects. Both, though not native to VT, are native in NY and NJ. <i>H. proflificum</i> is a vigorous seeder.	
Mid	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> (butterfly milkweed)	1-2'	1-2'	Orange	5	Needs small patches of bare soil to reseed. Monarch butterfly host plant.	
Mid	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i> (wild bergamot)	1.5'	2-3'	Pink/Lavender	5	Non-spreading species of bee balm or bergamot	
Mid-Late	<i>Pycnanthemum</i> sp: <i>P. tenuifolia</i> (narrow leaf mountain mint) or <i>P. verticillata</i> (whorled mountain mint)	2'	1.5-2.5'	White	2	Slowly spreads. Minty, fragrant foliage. Many weeks of floral resources for insects. Will reseed.	
Mid-Late	<i>Agastache</i> sp: <i>A. scrophularifolia</i> (purple giant hyssop) or <i>A. foeniculum</i> (lavender giant hyssop)	1.5-2'	6'	Purple	5	Provides a long season of floral resources to multiple pollinators. They need small patches of bare soil to reseed. <i>A. scrophularifolia</i> is a rare VT native. <i>A. foeniculum</i> is native to the midwest but an acceptable substitute.	

Sign explains collaboration with Champlain Elementary school community in increasing connected habitat across school grounds.

Page one of BTV Plant List developed by Grow Wild Ed. and Outreach committee. See the 3 page doc at: <https://burlingtonwildways.org/sites/default/files/imce/uploads/Which-Native-Plants.pdf>

Policies & Practices

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

Learn More

