

Bee City USA - Dawsonville

Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Work days at Main Street Park and Rock Creek Park, both in Dawson County, maintained the quality of the native plants, provided updated signage and new wildflowers. Additional 'Pollinator Spots', established in 2020, mostly located in downtown Dawsonville in front of the City Hall, antique stores and the library, are watched continually by members to maintain and enhance the quality of flowers, signage and educational materials. Mature seeds and any overabundant plants are removed and given away to shoppers at the Saturday Farmers' Market. The much larger area at Rock Creek Park has organized work days to remove weeds and encourage blooming and healthy plants in this showcase garden. Informational materials are available in the kiosk at this Park and Main Street Park. Three new raised beds in Veterans Memorial Park were built by a local Eagle Scout in December 2021. We will be planting native pollinator plants in March 2022. The local Senior Center visitors will be involved in the maintenance of these plants.



Three of our pollinator gardens have been included in the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail.



An Eagle Scout completed his project of providing three raised beds and butterfly boxes in Veterans Memorial Park.



Small pollinator gardens or "Spots" are planted in downtown Dawsonville for visitors and residents to enjoy and learn about native pollinator plants and insects.

Education & Outreach

1. Main Street Park Pollinator Tour, (hosted and created by the Dawson County Woman's Club) The native plant pollinator garden, established in spring and summer 2020, continue to attract visitors. In preparation for the Pollinator Tour in June 2021, small gardens or 'spots' were created at two antique stores in downtown Dawsonville along with the Dawson County library, The Bowen Art Center, one elementary school, the Chamber of Commerce and Dawsonville City Hall. Ten Woman's Club members and five local Girl Scouts helped with each garden spot. The Pollinator Tour extended to two



members' nearby home gardens where approximately 34 visitors and four Woman's Club members learned about native pollinator plants. 2. The Great Georgia Pollinator Count (hosted by the University of Georgia Extension Service) conducted in August attracted a small crowd of two adults and two children who counted bees and butterflies in the Pollinator Garden at Main Street Park. This event was attended by six Woman's Club members. This event was lightly attended because the Dawson County Parks and Recreation held their youth sports registrations for soccer and football on this day. We will change our date in 2022. 3. Dawson County Farmers' Market (hosted by the City of Dawsonville and Dawson and Lumpkin Counties Master Gardeners). Each Saturday from April through October, the Woman's Club has two or three members attending the Market and working the crowds. Literature including pamphlets, handouts and articles (written by Club members), plus verbal information are all available during these four hour mornings. In addition, native plants and seeds are given to attending patrons. 4. One of our Woman's Club members is a bee keeper. She presented a program about honey bees and other pollinators to Girl Scouts and the Dawson County Woman's Club



A presentation about honey bees and other pollinators and native plants in a garden.



The first annual Pollinator Tour was held in June, 2021 at Main Street Park where four raised beds are filled with native pollinator plants.



Young boy participating in the Pollinator Census at our raised beds in Main Street Park.

Policies & Practices

This current year (2022) will begin our effort to encourage and implement IPM in the city and county.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List: [RECOMMENDED NATIVE PLANTS FOR GEORGIA.docx](#)

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



Learn More

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Members of the Dawson County Woman's Club and Pollinator Plants Committee include the City of Dawsonville mayor, city manager and city workers.

