

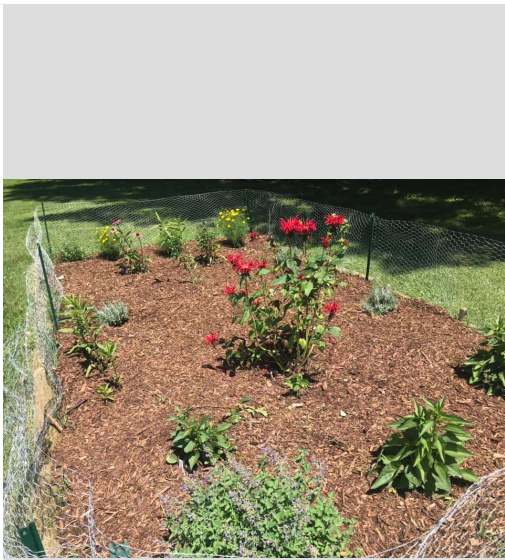
# Bee City USA - Havre de Grace

Report on 2021

## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

A. Installation of a dedicated Pollinator Garden at the Todd Park Food Forest – The HdG Green Team added an 8'x16' plot within the pre-existing Food Forest to foster robust pollination of the fruit trees within the Forest. 5 Volunteers installed, maintain and manage the garden May 16 2021. B. Todd Park Food Forest expansion – Established in 2016 with a grant from the Maryland Urban Community Forestry Committee, the Todd Park Food Forest lies on parkland owned by the City of Havre de Grace and is situated across the street from the Green Team's Seneca Avenue Community Garden. The vision for the Food Forest is for it to be planted and nurtured by members of the community. The community would have access to the plantings to observe and learn from them season after season, and they would also be able to harvest the edible produce when the plants mature. The Food Forest was planted with sustainability in mind. It is an ongoing source of fruit, nuts, berries and other plants. The plantings provide habitat for other species, including pollinators that are essential to our food system. The Food Forest also contributes to the environment by adding to the forest canopy, an important step in addressing global warming, and to enhancing the green cover of the land for watershed management. The HdG Green Team received a \$5,000 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, to install three permaculture beds, plant two hybrid chestnut trees, develop a plan for future enhancements to the entire Food Forest, and hold a maintenance workshop in the spring of 2021. On April 1 2021, three permaculture beds were planted with blueberry bushes and native perennials; June 12 2021: Workshop held at the site on maintenance of the beds and trees in the food forest; October 17 2021: Fall cleanup and mulching event of beds and trees. C. Heirloom Victory Garden – During World Wars I and II, home victory gardens were promoted to support war efforts. Today, home agriculture is a sensible and economical way to supplement the food budget with fresh and healthy crops. Open-pollinated heirloom vegetable seeds can be saved and replanted from year to year, unlike hybrid seeds that don't consistently reproduce true to the parent plant. This iconic garden supplements local area food pantries with its harvest and is maintained solely by volunteers. In 2021, we adjusted our gardening practices to achieve Bay-wise Certification.





Newly planted pollinator garden at the Todd Park Food Forest



Green Team volunteers learn how to maintain the new permaculture beds at the Todd Park Food Forest



Heirloom Victory Garden achieves Bay wise certification

## Education & Outreach

- HDG Fourth of July Parade. A big shout out to all the pollinator-friendly folks who participated in the Green Team's entry in the Havre de Grace July 4 parade! Special thanks go to Nic and Lynne Galloro who turned an electric vehicle into a Beemobile and to Sue Capp who sewed the bee costumes. We also thank partnering organizations Harford County Climate Action and Havre de Grace Maritime Museum and Environmental Center. A good time was had by all while we got the word out about the importance of pollinators and the need to protect them.
- Native Plant Pollinator Garden Installation event. On May 16, 2021, the HdG Green Team held an event to add an 8'x16' native plant pollinator garden within the pre-existing Todd Park Food Forest to foster robust pollination of the fruit trees within the Forest. Five volunteers installed, maintain and manage the garden.
- First Fridays, downtown business district, Havre de Grace. Two of the Green Team's First Friday booths were focused on pollinator themes. Our booth in June focused on Pollinator Week information and included giveaways of Xerces bee face masks and cicada masks to participating children. We also had available a variety of Bee, native plant and pollinator related literature and volunteers on site were available to answer questions and collect handcrafted pollinators made by local school children for our planned Fourth of July parade float. In September, our booth sold honey from our Apiary to raise funds and promote the significance of pollinators.
- Heirloom Victory Garden at the Moore Family Historic Farm, Waterfront Festival Booth. HdG Green Team and the University of Maryland Extension Master Gardeners had adjacent booths at the HdG Waterfront Festival, where we promoted the



importance of pollinators and the Bay-wise program, as well as other garden and food system related themes. • HDG Apiary Hands On Events. The Havre de Grace Green Team Apiary provides volunteers and aspiring beekeepers the opportunity to assist with care and maintenance of honeybees and honey harvesting. As part of our ongoing outreach, volunteers were invited to two events. The first event beyond general hive/bee maintenance was an event where volunteers had the opportunity to help with all stages of the honey harvest in July. In Oct, our project lead held a hands-on demonstration of making candy boards to help the honeybees overwinter in the hives. • HDG Holiday Tree Jubilee. In support of the Independence Day Commission fundraiser, the HdG Green Team donated a Pollinator-themed tree “BEE-Utiful Holiday”. It featured wildflower seed packets and a jar of honey from our apiary, as well as Green Team and Bee City brochures for potential bidders to take with them. We plan to add Bee City USA Logo street signs and request the City to issue a National Pollinator Week proclamation in 2022.



Havre de Grace Green Teamers reuse our parade costumes at First Friday event



Havre de Grace Green Team Pollinator Float at the 2021 Fourth of July parade



HdG Green Team and U of M Master Gardeners promote pollinators and the Bay Wise program at the Waterfront Festival

## Policies & Practices

The City of Havre de Grace follows the state guidelines for requiring a license to use/spray the pesticides. <https://egov.maryland.gov/MDA/Pesticides/>. Also, since we have so much shoreline which is in "Critical Area" a special "in-water" license is mandatory to spray in that area. We hire Environmentally Sound Landscapes to control invasives along the shoreline and our water-related projects. In addition, the HdG Green Team promotes the University of Maryland Extension Baywise program, which has Integrated Pest Management as a major component. The HdG Green Team Heirloom Victory Garden has achieved Baywise Certification, and roughly 25 local residents achieved Baywise certification in 2021. Finally, members of the HdG Green Team participated in a seminar presented by “Sustainable Maryland” called ‘Adopting Pesticide Regulation ‘ presented by Beyond Pesticides in May of 2021. The HdG Green Team is looking for opportunities to with with the City and local residents to apply lessons learned from the seminar in the future.



Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://hdgreen.org/library/>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://hdgreen.org/library/>

# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

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## BAY-WISE

### A MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

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Learn More





Havre de Grace Green Team

