



# Bee City USA Annual Report Pollinator Conservation & Education 2019



## Boone, North Carolina

### EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Town of Boone Staff and elected officials celebrate Earth Awareness Day by presenting the Town's Bee City USA designation on the front porch of the Jones House Cultural and Community Center. The event featured a live band, free pollinator-friendly trees, and a large cake.



For the past two years, the Town of Boone has hosted "Earth Awareness Day", later dubbed "Earth First Friday", as a way to introduce the town's new designation as a Bee City USA. The event also served as a forum to promote sustainable programs within the Town of Boone, such as Tree City USA, recycling, water conservation, and recent policy and ordinance changes.

The event included the Watauga County Beekeepers Association, and the town gave away 100 pollinator-friendly seedlings and pollinator-friendly seed packets to members of the community. What was left over was planted in the events mentioned above. The event also served to forward the similar sustainability missions of Appalachian State University (a Bee City USA Campus), Watauga County, and local agencies and non-profit organizations within our community.





## POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



Shown above are photos of the Town of Boone pollinator-friendly tree planting project at the Boone Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Town of Boone initiated tree plantings within the Town's Clawson-Burnley Park wetlands, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Raw Water Intake, Town Hall, Public Works, Planning & Inspections, Police Department Headquarters, and other Town property flower gardens.

The Town also contributed seedlings to the Middle Fork Greenway, a cross-jurisdiction active transportation and conservation project connecting the Towns of Boone and Blowing Rock.

Lastly, the Town of Boone Public Works Department, Streets division, initiated a program to incorporate pollinator-friendly tree plantings within all Town maintained rights-of-way. These processes are ongoing and improving each time.

## POLICIES & PRACTICES

The following policies were added to the Boone Comprehensive Plan:

- Encourage use of low-impact habitat-friendly practices to achieve and maintain native species, including plants, wildlife and beneficial insects (such as pollinators) within private and public developments.
- Use plans and investments to enhance the diversity, quantity and quality of habitats that are native, rare or declining.
- Ensure that landscape and pesticide management practices minimize impacts to the environment including impacts to pollinators.
- Create a least toxic pesticide management plan for use by the town which also can be distributed to the community as an educational tool.
- Create a landscape management plan for the town using best management practices that preserves, maintains and enhances native plant material selections which are also pollinator-friendly.
- Revise standards in the Unified Development Ordinance Appendix B to include pollinator-friendly plant material.

**Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List —**

[http://www.townofboone.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AppendixB\\_12162019-a.pdf](http://www.townofboone.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AppendixB_12162019-a.pdf)

**Regional Native Plant Supplier List —** Multiple local suppliers

**Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan —** Not available at this time

## CONTACT US!

**Committee —** Sustainability Committee, Harvard Ayers and Ben Scarborough

**Website —** Not available at the moment

**Social Media —** Not available at the moment