



Bee City USA Annual Report Pollinator Conservation & Education 2019



Highlands, North Carolina

EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Highlands School 5th graders learn about pollinators in the school garden



Canty Worley leads a field trip to the wildflower meadow at the Mountain Retreat and Learning Center



Phil poses after her Zahner Lecture

In January 2019, Sonya Carpenter gave a talk for the Mountain Garden Club of Highlands on Pollinators. On May 9 the Highlands Biological Foundation (a partner organization for Bee City Highlands) hosted a wildflower and pollinators walk. On May 22, the 5th grade class of Highlands School planted seeds of wildflowers and vegetables in the school garden. On August 22 Phylis Stiles gave a Zahner Conservation Lecture at the Highlands Nature Center. On September 7th Sonya Carpenter and Canty Worley gave a Pollinator talk at the Dahlia Festival presented by the Highlands Historical Society. On September 10th the Center for Life Enrichment hosted a field trip to the wildflower meadow at the Mountain Retreat center led by Canty Worley.

Through our partnerships with many local organizations we are able to speak with the community about the importance of pollinators, native plants and the removal of non-native, invasive plant species often!



Phil's table of goodies at the Highlands Nature Center



5th graders show off their seeds

POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT

We established a school garden at the Highlands School using both native wildflower seeds and vegetable seeds and plants. The 5th grade class helped with the planting and neighbors helped with the garden maintenance and harvesting throughout the summer.

In partnership with the Peggy Crosby Center, a non profit organization that provides housing to multiple other non-profits in the community, we developed a pollinator garden on the front bank of the center. This garden is high-profile and solved an issue with a steep, easily eroded bank.

The Highlands Biological Foundation, a Bee City Highlands partner, installed a huge pollinator garden as a part of the North Campus improvements. This garden includes all native plants and uses thousands of perennial plugs, shrubs and trees.

The Mountain Retreat and Learning center, a Bee City partner, used grant funding to enhance the wildflower meadow which serves as a garden and sits at the entrance of the Center on Highway 106.

Volunteers of the Highlands Plateau Greenway met once per month to maintain the trail system, remove non-native, invasive plants and help spread native plants using seed and transplants. We have been working hard!



Feed a Bee meadow at the Mountain Retreat and Learning Center



Planting of the pollinator garden at the Highlands Biological Station (HBS)



Students from the 5th grade class help to plant in the school garden



HBS pollinator garden planting

POLICIES & PRACTICES

The Town of Highlands contracts with a local landscaper to perform maintenance on town properties. I have spoken with the owner of the company to help educate him about the dangers of using pesticides. In the gardens managed by Bee City Highlands partner organizations, no pesticides or chemically treated seeds or plants have been used in the gardens.

Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List — <https://www.highlandsgreenway.com/home.htm>

Regional Native Plant Supplier List — <https://chattoogagardens.com/>

Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan —
<https://www.highlandsgreenway.com/home.htm>

CONTACT US!

Committee — Highlands Bee City Committee, Sonya Carpenter and Canty Worley

Website — <https://www.highlandsgreenway.com/home.htm>

Social Media — <https://www.facebook.com/highlandsbeecity/>