

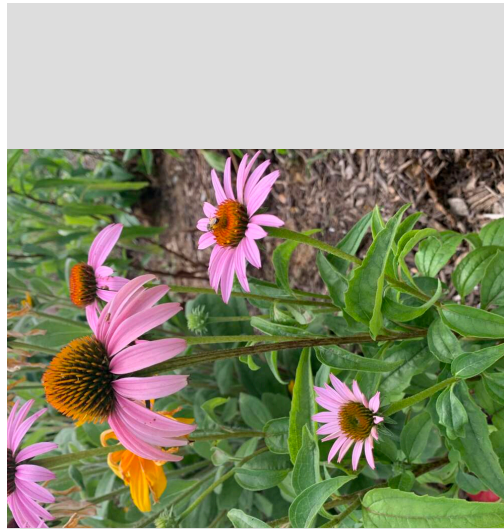
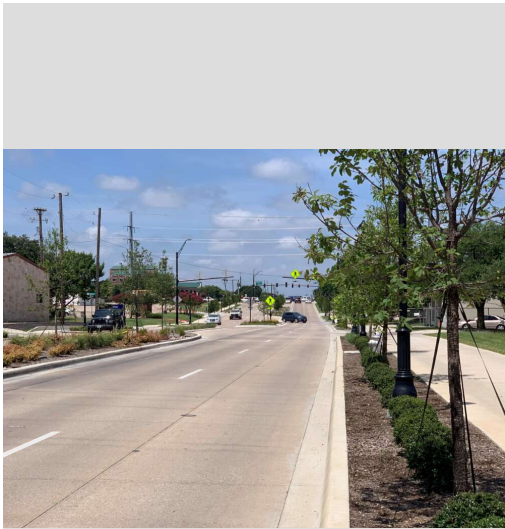
Bee City USA - Grapevine

Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Our community has many projects to create and enhance pollinator habitat. All four elementary schools have a garden with associated curricula. Each are supported by their respective Parent Teacher Associations other local resources. Grapevine Highschool has an outdoor ecology center with preserved woodlands and a creek running through it. Each year these five facilities are enhanced with additional vegetation and invasive species mitigation. The Grapevine Parks and Recreation Department, who is the sponsor for our Bee City USA affiliation, has focused on landscape enhancement along roadside rights-of-way and prairie reconstruction. In 2014, the City of Grapevine completed master planning efforts, Grapevine Gateway Enhancement Master Plan, to improve landscape and signage within the rights-of-ways and City-owned property of designated gateways and associated corridors. The primary purpose of the master plan was to reinforce the sense of arrival into the City of Grapevine by creating a strong visual identity while providing native and adaptive trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs that support the wellbeing of pollinators and other wildlife as well as mitigate the impacts of air pollution. Over the past seven years the City has strategically planned the funding and installation of five of the seven corridor projects. The City has successfully leveraged funding awarded through the Texas Department of Transportation's Green Ribbon Program and the Keep Texas Beautiful's Governor Community Achievement Award with the City's Quality of Life funds to implement the master plan. The combination of the five projects has enhanced 40 acres of native seeded grasses and wildflowers with diverse plantings of native and adaptive trees, shrubs, and bunch grasses. In total, more than 800 trees, 15,000 shrubs and 44,000 bunch grasses have been planted. Each year these areas are enhanced with additional plantings and/or plant replacements. More so, The Dallas Road Corridor project with funding assistance from the North Central Texas Council of Governments through the Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Program was completed last year consisting of landscaped medians, vegetative buffer and a regional trail. The landscaped medians and buffers totaled one acre of native trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs. This corridor is located in the center of Grapevine's Transit District that borders the historic downtown. This is a great example showing how active urban landscapes can nurture nature. In 2016, the Department began prairie reconstruction on 9.5 acres of park land with funding assistance from the United States Fish & Wildlife Service Partnership. Most of our efforts have been concentrated on the 4-acre Parr Park Pollinator Prairie. Last year we added an interior pathway, planted 89 milk weed plants, and sown wildflower seeds. We also pulled giant ragweed and spot sprayed the ever resilient and invasive Bermuda grass. With lessons learned from Parr, we turned our attention to Lake Pointe Pollinator Prairie which is also 4 acres in size. There is about one acre in the middle of the property overrun by Bermuda grass. We began with a control burn over the entire property with the help of our Fire Department. However, the Bermuda grass grew back and we began applying herbicide late last summer and will continue to treat this year. If the treatment is successful, we will sow native seeds and planting native forbs next winter.





Dallas Rd_Native Landscaped Center Medians - One of the primary objectives for the Dallas Road Corridor project was to create a more comfortable and safer place for pedestrians and bicycles. The use of native trees, shrubs and grasses played a significant role in achieving this objective.

Dallas Rd_Purple Cone Flower - Purple coneflowers and other color forbs were planted in the center medians along Dallas Road. This project is a great example how active urban landscapes can nurture nature.

Parr Pollinator Prairie_Sowing Wildflower Seeds - Passionate volunteers prepping the soil and sowing wildflower seeds at the Parr Pollinator Prairie.

Education & Outreach

We started the year off by hosting a free virtual lecture, The Importance of Pollinators, as part of our Environmental Lecture Series. The February lecture was co-presented by the Grapevine Bee City USA liaison covering the Bee City USA program, current pollinator support efforts by the City, and general information about pollinators and their importance. There were 41 in attendance and 11 views since the lecture was recorded. This unique event demonstrated that support can come from unexpected places. Our sponsor, Sam Pack's Five Star Subaru Grapevine hosted with their partner Kraken Motorsports a Just Bee-Cause Car Meet in April. The entry fee was a donation to Keep Grapevine Beautiful in support of our efforts to enhance the well-being of pollinators. The donation was matched by Subaru totaling \$ 655.00. We staffed a booth with educational materials and handed out wildflower seed packets to about 130 participants. The Grapevine Garden Club hosted their annual spring plant sale with extra focus on pollinator plants, Good to BEE Plant Sale. Master Gardeners were available for advice and educational materials were provided to an estimated 200 patrons. We hosted our monthly Happy to Help event that included planting 89 milkweed plants received from Monarch Watch and sowing locally collected wildflower seeds in the Parr Park Pollinator Prairie. There were eight participants. Creating synergy for the cause, we partnered with Grapevine Parks & Recreation Department and The National Parks & Recreation association to promote the Parks for Pollinators program through a Bioblitz. We devised a month-long competition with prizes to see



who could make the most observations utilizing the iNaturalist app. The competition began with Park for Pollinators BioBlitz kick-off event and concluded with Happy to Help Bioblitz event. The Parks Department hosted a family campout and a GoWild nature class that also participated in the Bioblitz. There was a total of 149 attendees at these events. There were 70 who participated in the competition making 26,000 observations. Annually the City hosts a free community event, Butterfly Flutterby. The event focuses on the importance of pollinators through the story of the Monarch butterfly. Activities include a costume parade, art contest, butterfly releases, craft activities and educational booths. We staff our booth equipped with educational materials such as literature on Bee City USA and the Xerces Society along with a spinning wheel. Visitors may spin the wheel for prizes after fun nature questions are answered. There were approximately 2,500 in attendance and we had about 500 who visited our booth. Last and most impressionable is the Pollinator Habitat at the Grapevine Botanical Garden. We coordinated with the Tarrant County Master Gardeners, Grapevine Community Outreach Center and the Grapevine Parks and Recreation Department to host a hands-on opportunity for 14 underserved youth to learn about the importance of pollinators and create a pollinator habitat. Utilizing monies from the Keep Texas Beautiful's Green Bag Grant, 30 pollinator friendly plants were planted and a sign provided by the Xerces Society was installed.



Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz Kick-off Event - A youth makes an observation during the Grapevine Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz Kick-off Event as fellow participants scout for anticipated discoveries with nets at the ready. Top three with the most observations win prizes. Are you up to the challenge?

Butterfly Flutterby_KGVB Booth - Keep Grapevine Beautiful at their booth during Grapevine's 24th Annual Butterfly Flutterby. Spin the wheel for prizes if you can answer questions correctly, such as, "What plant does the Monarch caterpillar eat?"

Pollinator Habitat Opportunity - Learning outdoors and creating a place for pollinators to enjoy and thrive brought a bright smile to this child's face. And maybe you too!



Policies & Practices

The Parks & Recreation Department uses only natives and adaptive trees and plants in landscape plantings to severely limit the need for pesticides and reduce watering requirements.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:



Grapevine Fire Department performing a control burn at the Lake Pointe Pollinator Prairie to control invasives the natural way.



Learn More



The Keep Grapevine Beautiful Board in March 2020 voted unanimously to serve as the Facilitator for the City of Grapevine in the Bee City USA Affiliate program.

