



# Bee City USA Annual Report Pollinator Conservation & Education 2019



## Salisbury, Maryland

### EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Children participated in a pollinator craft specifically related to herbs during pollinator week.



A child learning about the stages of butterflies at the Zoo's butterfly exhibit.



Local Beekeeper Jim Leather showing off a Hive at the Zoo's Pollinator Day celebration.



The Zoo's Annual Earth Day was held April 27th. Over 15 Earth Friendly organizations exhibited throughout the Zoo educating the public about the environment and how people can help mother earth.



Beekeeper Jim Leather preparing for a hive demonstration at GreenFest.

### **Zoo Cleanup and Earth Day**

In early spring volunteers from a local church came to the Zoo to rake and clean out the Zoo's gardens. Children and families planted flowering plants and bushes. Over 90 people participated in the annual zoo cleanup.

The Zoo's Annual Earth Day was held April 27th. Over 15 Earth Friendly organizations exhibited throughout the Zoo educating the public about the environment and how people can help mother earth. The importance of bees and other pollinators was also highlighted at this event.

### **Demonstration Vegetable Garden**

The Zoo planted a vegetable garden to educate children about the role pollinators play in producing their food. Signage with fun facts were placed in the garden illustrating how pollination works. During Pollinator Week, Zoo Greeters gave out a Pollinator Quiz to visitors. If they participated in the quiz they received a free drink at the zoo's concession stand.

### **Butterfly Exhibit**

This year a local high school student displayed his butterfly project in the Zoo's butterfly exhibit. The project included specific plants for butterflies. The student exhibited the stages of a butterfly's metamorphosis with actual live specimens that he raised. Visitors were able to actually see each step of this process. Throughout the summer, the student held education talks about the importance of butterflies and their role in pollination. The Zoo hopes to continue to use this exhibit for these projects and future collaborative projects done before with the Department of Natural Resources.

### **Pollinator Day 2019**

On June 22nd the last day of Pollinator Week the Zoo hosted Pollinator Day. This event was free to the public and showcased local beekeepers with their hives and honey. Our local county extension service also attended. They shared their knowledge of pollinators to children and families. Children participated in pollinator themed crafts, danced the bee dance and pretended to be a pollinator. Over 903 people came to visit the Zoo that day. This event was hosted by the Salisbury Zoo in partnership with the pollinator committee.

### **Pollinator Week 2019**

During Pollinator Week, the Salisbury Zoo's herb society members gave tours of the Zoo's herb garden. Visitors were educated about the importance of herbs and their role in pollination. Additional signage was placed around the garden during the week with helpful information about herbs. Children participated in a pollinator craft specifically related to herbs.

### **GreenFest 2019**

In 2019 the City hosted the first GreenFest, a celebration of the environment in downtown Salisbury. GreenFest 2019 featured local environmental groups, green businesses, yoga, and environmental demonstrations. One of the demonstrations was by local beekeeper Jim Leather, owner of Victory Garden Apiary. Jim's hive demonstration captured the hearts of both kids and adults as he educated about the importance of bees. Over 200 people attended the first GreenFest.

# POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



An image of the Salisbury Zoo herb garden sign.



The Bee City USA sign situated in the Zoo's main pollinator garden.



The herb garden in the Salisbury Zoo is actively maintained and contains pollinator-friendly plants.



A bee enjoying native plants in the Zoo's pollinator garden.



The Zoo vegetable garden with pollinator educational signs

The Salisbury Zoo's pollinator garden has a wide variety of native pollinator plants. Each year the Zoo increases the number of pollinator plants around the zoo's campus. The pollinator committee is active in assisting with the growth and expansion of the pollinator garden.

## Demonstration Vegetable Garden

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their food. Signage with fun facts were placed in the garden illustrating how pollination works.

## POLICIES & PRACTICES

Our City parks department does not use any dangerous pesticides in our public spaces.

The City IPM plan is still being developed. Our sustainability coordinator is working with our parks department to create an official IPM plan and the plan will be completed by summer 2020.

### **Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List —**

<https://salisbury.md/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/OuterCoastal.rx5-pollinator-partnership.pdf>

**Regional Native Plant Supplier List —** <https://www.americannativeplants.com/>

**Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan —** Under development

## CONTACT US!



**Committee —** City of Salisbury Pollinator Committee

### **Website —**

<https://salisbury.md/departments/infrastructure-re-development/sustainability-advisory-committee-green-team/bee-city>

### **Social Media —**

<https://www.facebook.com/SBYGreenTeam/>

Pollinator committee Chair Terri Gladus, with members Alyssa Hastings, Ryan Weitzel, Mayor Day, and members of City Council at GreenFest 2019.