



BEE CITY USA
AN INITIATIVE OF THE XERCES SOCIETY



Why Bee City?



- When people hear the word "bee" they often think of a single bee species, the European honey bee. However, the United States is also home to just over 3,600 native (wild) bee species.
- Native pollinators are particularly important because they evolved alongside native plants and in many cases are the most effective pollinators — and in a few cases, the only pollinators.
- Pollinators are keystone species in essentially every terrestrial ecosystem on earth, assisting in plant reproduction and supporting other species of wildlife.
- Pollinators touch our lives in numerous ways each day, including being responsible for approximately one third of the food and drink we consume.
- The value of crop pollination has been estimated between \$18 and \$27 billion annually in the U.S.

Benefits

- Help to ensure the survival of vital animal species crucial to our planet's functioning ecosystems.
- Build a pollinator friendly community locally. This will boost overall efforts in NC and nationally.
- Improve local food production, support local growers and farmers
- Support the growth of local businesses including native plant nurseries and pollinator friendly landscaping.
- Bring your community together around a positive, shared cause and connect with others across the country that have made the same commitment.





Community Awareness

- Raise community awareness of how our food grows and improve local food production through expanded pollination.
- Work to address pest problems with fewer pesticides and raise community awareness of the least toxic ways to tackle home and garden pest problems.
- Mobilize our community to remove non-native invasive plants to make way for locally native plant species.
- Raise community awareness of the local environment's diversity of plant and pollinator species.
- Ability to partner with businesses and organizations that are already knowledgeable and have well established pollinator friendly practices.



How can we help?

- The steps that affiliates take to conserve our native bees, including creating safe habitats and hosting community events, will also help other pollinators including butterflies and moths as well as the non-native honey bee.
- Educate our community as to the benefits of bees and other pollinators.
- Strive to use fewer pesticides when possible.
- Work together to improve the overall environment

GREAT NEWS! High Point is already well on it way!!



How do we proceed?



- **Form a committee.**

Should include individuals with experience and interests that will help the committee complete the commitments. Generally, a mix of volunteers and city staff. The committee should have a chair or multiple co-chairs and should have a regular meeting schedule that is open to the public.

- **Assign facilitation to a local government body or non-profit organization.**

Assign facilitation of the Bee City USA effort to Keep High Point Beautiful as we are a well-established group that operates under the umbrella of the City of High Point with the support of the Public Services Department. We will form a subcommittee that will include several KHPB board, Youth Advisory Council and community members.

- **Designate a local government department as a sponsor.**

Public Services will serve as the sponsoring department and provide a liaison.

- **Complete the online application form and submit along with a resolution**

Keep High Point Beautiful will be responsible for submission of all.

- **Submit adopted resolution and pay annual fee of \$500.00.**

Keep High Point Beautiful will submit resolution and fee will come from annual budget provide through Public Services Department, Environmental Services Division.

Thank you!

Public Services Department
Environmental Services
Keep High Point Beautiful

