

BEE CITY USA



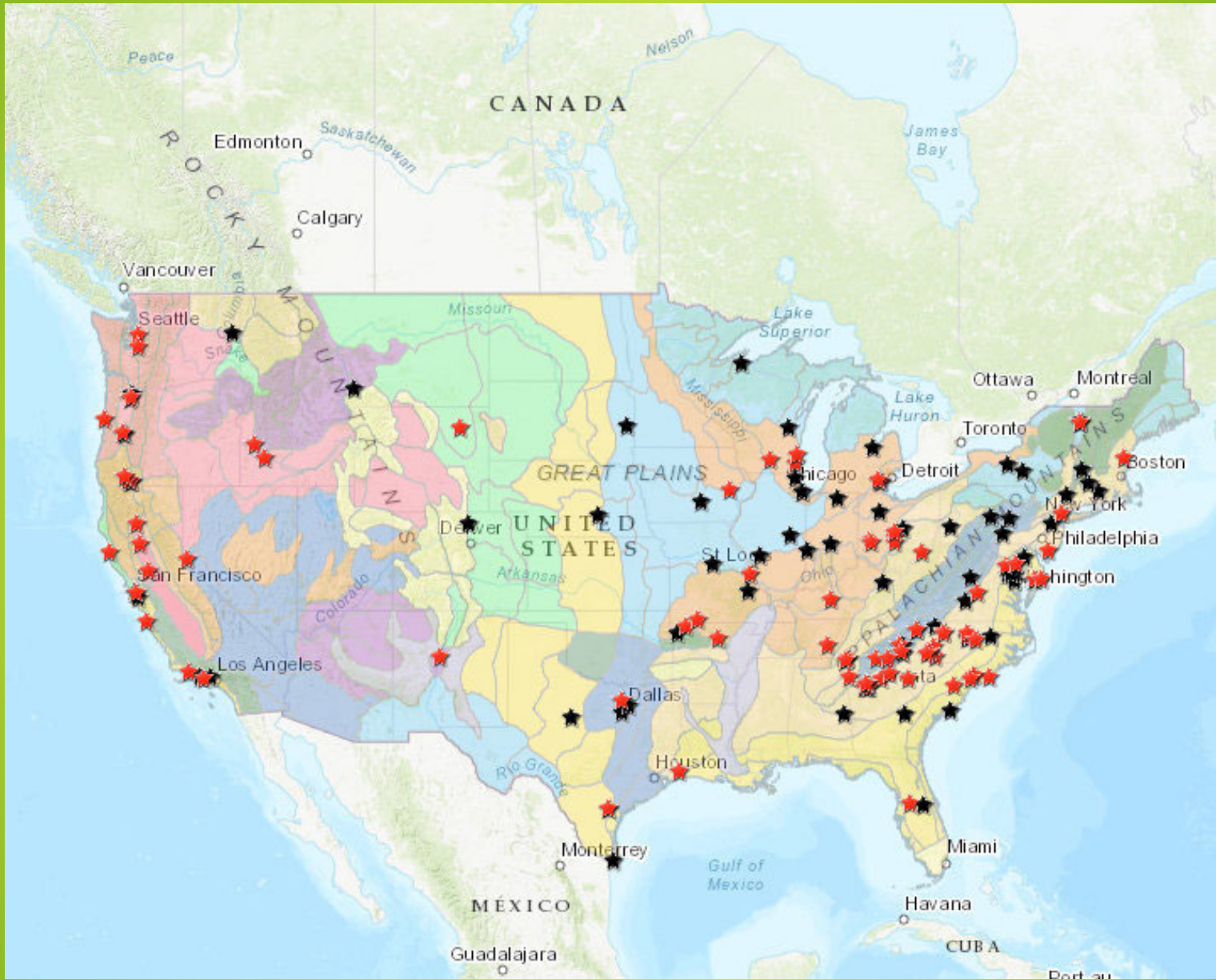
Williamstown, WV
Official Designated on
May 21, 2019



What is it??

- Program began in 2011 in Asheville, NC
- Their goal was to engage as many people as possible in reversing the population declines of native bees, honey bees and other pollinators
- Second city (Talent OR) came on board in 2014
- Currently 85 cities, 26 states & DC





Benefits to being a Bee CITY USA

- Sharing & collaboration with other entities via conference calls and webinars
- Shows our commitment to pollinator conservation & provides support for a nationwide effort on public & private lands
- Provides accountability of our progress through public annual reporting
- Funding opportunities
- Research & habitat enhancement through email, e-newsletters, website & Facebook page
- Press releases templates, brochure templates, T-shirt designs, signage, etc.



Benefits to being a Bee CITY USA

- Help to ensure survival of animal species critical to our complex food web
- Improve local food production through increased pollination
- Improve demand at local nurseries for native, pollinator friendly plants
- Assist in removal of invasive species
- Introduce an integrated pest management program, provide locals alternative possibilities for pest management
- Heighten awareness of seasonal changes – what's blooming when?
- Lead the way for West Virginia!!



Requirements the City must meet

- Pass a Resolution designating us as a Bee City USA
- Designate a city office to be the sponsor of the program
- Establish a committee to facilitate the program
- Host at least 1 educational event or pollinator habitat planting or restoration each year
- Install & maintain at least 1 Bee City USA sign
- Create & maintain a page on our website with info including progress of committee
- Develop & implement plan to create & expand habitat on public & private lands
- Identify & inventory real property that can be enhanced
- Create a recommended locally native plant list
- Create a list of local native plant suppliers
- Annually track acreage of pollinator habitat created or enhanced

Requirements the City must meet

- Create & adopt an integrated pest management
- Expand use of non-chemical pest management methods
- Each February after one full year in the program, apply for renewal and include a report on the previous year's activities
- Pay renewal fee based on population
- All requirements must be met within 2 years and continue maintaining and updating as needed after that time



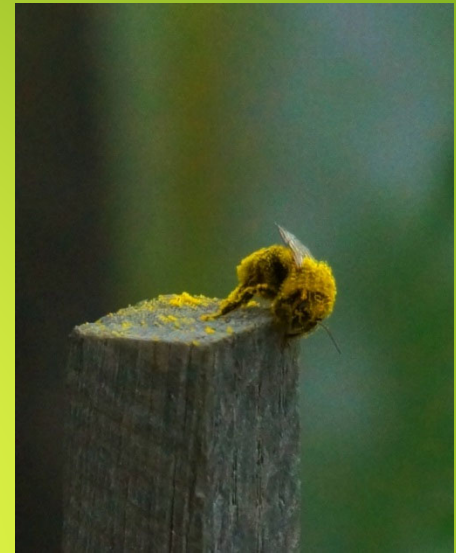
Bee City USA Committee

- Membership should be broad based – city rep, members of service groups, garden clubs, interested citizens
- Experts in –
 - Volunteer engagement
 - Native plants & Invasive plants
 - Pollinators (wild bees, honey bees, butterflies, etc)
 - Integrated pest management
- Should have a chair, vice chair and secretary
- Should meet regularly in an open meeting format
- Facilitate broad based community involvement

We Need Help!!!

- Beekeepers
- Civic Groups
- Schools
- Island Wildlife Center (master naturalist program)
- Master Gardeners
- Churches
- Non profits
- Pollinator experts
- Plant experts
- Tree commission
- MOST IMPORTANT – interested citizens

City Liason



- City Clerk's Office will be the liason to the community
- Front desk clerk's will have info available
- Will be able to direct people to the proper committee member to answer their question

Setting Goals

- Committee needs to see the big picture
- Make realistic short term goals to get the program off on the right foot
- *Example of short term possibilities–*
- Planting on city properties
- Native and invasive plant listings for the public
- Get an education plan into the schools
- Consider being a part of WV Honey Festival and other area celebrations
- Establish and maintain the webpage and a Facebook page



Community Input

None
Of This
Works

Unless....

The Community
Buys Into
The Program!!!



Important E-mail Addresses

- williamstownwv.org
- www.beecityusa.org
- xerces.org

We Can Lead The Way!!!

