



# Bee City Renewal 2020

**Name of City, Town or Municipality**

Wellesley Township

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**Province**

Ontario

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**Applicant's Name**

Karen Sciuk

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**Applicant's Job Title**

President

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**Organization or Department**

Wellesley Township Horticultural Society (WTHS)

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**Address**

97 Village Rd.  
Wellesley, ON  
N0B 2T0

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**Applicant's Phone**

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+12893121278

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**Applicant's Email**

[karen.sciuk@teksavvy.com](mailto:karen.sciuk@teksavvy.com)

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**Are you the primary contact person?**

Yes

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**Briefly summarize your Bee City experience during the past year. Please include information about challenges, feedback, and media responses.**

WTHS received two grants to fund Bee City projects. A small \$100 grant was received from the OHA to revamp a perennial bed located on a popular street front in Wellesley with more pollinator friendly flowers. A large \$3500 grant was received by WTHS from the Region of Waterloo Environmental Fund to cover expenses for promotional materials, social media, nursery plot rental, soil & mulch & native plants for future habitat gardens throughout the other settlement areas in the township e.g. Linwood, St. Clements. This second grant application was submitted with input from Friends of the Wellesley Pond, the Township Council, the Wellesley Community Garden, and both the Kitchener and Stratford Master Gardener groups.

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**Outline community initiatives focusing on habitat creation and restoration. If possible, include a plant list.**

WTHS rented a plot at the Wellesley Community Garden to grow native plant divisions obtained from current pollinator habitats, and for propagation of future plants from seeds collected: *Asclepias tuberosa*, *Eupatorium maculatum*, *Helenium autumnale*, *Liatris spicata*, *Monarda fistulosa*, *Physostegia virginiana*, *Ratibida pinnata*, *Solidago juncea*, *Veronicastrum virginicum*, *Elymus canadensis*, *Sorghastrum nutans*, *Panicum virgatum*.

The Community Garden participants continued to maintain their pollinator display entrance garden. The Friends of Wellesley Pond continued to maintain the naturalized butterfly garden as the native perennials & grasses installed in 2017 continued to expand.

Several yards of composted mulch was purchased & stored at the Community Garden for use in future township pollinator gardens.

WTHS revamped the Schmidtsville circle by dividing over grown perennials, editing out extra grasses & shrubs, adding new pollinator friendly perennials & annuals.

WTHS consulted with the township to include some pollinator friendly annuals in the planter boxes & hanging baskets.

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**How did your community promote being a Bee City?**

WTHS set up a facebook page to feature pollinator habitat information and promote relevant local community events including Bee City Projects, both within the township and in the surrounding nearby communities.

WTHS took part in the Pollination Festival at the Huron Natural area in Kitchener with other regional Bee Cities and related groups in August.

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The theme for the 2019 Wellesley Township Fall Fair was "Bee-utiful" in support of our Bee City designation.

WTHS ran a Pollinator Garden Contest for the Fall Fair.

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**Please tell us about your efforts aimed at educating your community, including residents, city employees, contractors, children and other groups.**

Educational materials were handed out and pollinator habitat advice was given out the following community events: Wellesley Home & Garden Show (April); Lucy's 4th Annual Vintage & Artisan Market (May); Wellesley Township Backyard BBQ (June) - Shely Candel was invited to officially recognize our designation; Wellesley Township Fall Fair (September) - including display of winners from the Pollinator Habitat Garden Contest. These events will continue in future years.

A Pollinator presentation was given at the St. Clements Paradise Lions Club to solicit interest in the Bee City designation. The St. Clements community library, post office, and Wild Birds a& Pet Things business all revamped pollinator gardens in response and are looking for a spot at the community centre to set up a new habitat garden in 2020.

A Pollinator presentation was given in June to two Horticultural classes at the Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School with the potential of future students (spring 2020) growing up native plant seeds collected from current habitats.

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**Please tell us about your community's participation in National Pollinator Week celebrations and other events.**

The Wellesley Branch of the Region of Waterloo Library held a Pollinator presentation by the Kitchener Master Gardeners during Pollination Week.

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**Describe your plans for creating, improving and maintaining pollinator habitat during the next year.**

In early 2020 the WTHS Bee City representative met with township staff to go over what Wellesley gardens could be expanded to include more native perennials & shrubs e.g. outside Wellesley Community Centre, and what sites in Linwood and St. Clements could have new pollinator habitats installed.

Volunteers will grow up seeds collected from native plants last fall. Other established native plants will be purchased from Ontario native plant nurseries. These will be installed in late spring - late summer into the expanded or newly created garden beds.

Existing habitats will be maintained by volunteers.

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**Has your City/Town/Municipality created a Bee City website or webpage?**

No

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**Bee City Renewal Fees**

10,001 – 25,000 population - \$200