



Bee City Renewal 2022

Name of City, Town, Municipality or First Nation

The City of Brampton

Province

Ontario

Applicant's Name

Zoe Milligan

Applicant's Job Title

Environmental Project Specialist

Organization or Department

Environmental Planning

Address

2 Wellington St W
Brampton, ON
L6Y 4R2

Applicant's Phone

+19058745286

Applicant's Email

zoe.milligan@brampton.ca

Are you the primary contact person?

Yes

Pollinator Team Members

Michael Hoy Environmental Planning Supervisor
Zoe Milligan Environmental Project Specialist
Edward Fagan Parks Maintenance and Forestry, Director
Werner Kuemmling Open Space Development Manager
Jessica Skup Community Program Coordinator
Edward Hunwicks Urban Forestry Supervisor
Brian McKelvey Horticulture Supervisor
John Allison Landscape Architect

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

The City of Brampton was officially recognized as a Bee City in June of 2021. Since then, the City of Brampton continues to implement strategic frameworks and leverage existing programs that support

the Bee City designation.

During the past year, the first phase of the pollinator bed at Loafers Lake began. Additionally, the City held various events during pollinator week such as a scavenger hunt and Twitter campaign to educate and advocate for pollinators.

The main challenge that the City faced during the past year is COVID-19, which inhibited in person outreach events and programs.

Please tell us about your community's efforts to reduce the use of pesticides.

The City follows the governance of the Pesticide Act, 1997, and the cosmetic pesticide ban, 2009. Under this ban, the City of Brampton has limited the use of pesticides for treating weeds to protect biodiversity and human health.

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

1. The Don't Mow, Let it Grow Program is an initiative that converts select areas of public land originally covered by turf grass into meadows and pollinator gardens. By doing so, this initiative restores and creates habitats by allowing for the natural growth of native grasses and flowers to support pollinators and wildlife.
2. The Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP) is a collaborative model that supports sustainable urban renewal and climate action on the neighbourhood scale. For example, rain gardens (Fletchers Creek SNAP) and bioswales (County Court SNAP) provide unique habitats for pollinator species.
3. Brampton's Naturalization program has naturalized over 220 hectares of land since 2002. Through the use of native seed mixes, shrubs, and trees, this program provides food and habitat for pollinators.
4. The Natural Heritage Restoration Program (NHRP) is an initiative to protect, restore, connect, and enhance the health and biodiversity of Brampton's natural heritage and urban forest system. Through this initiative, the City looks for opportunities to create naturalized habitats and enhance natural heritage within green infrastructure and parks.

How did your community promote being a Bee City?

The City of Brampton promoted being a Bee City through a Media Release on June 16, 2021. This release discussed the purpose of the Bee City designation and how Brampton aims to promote pollinator species through various plans and programs. This Media Release also has links to further resources that residents and staff can view to learn more about Bee City Canada and pollinators. We have also been in the Globe and Mail and talked about our pollinator initiatives and being a Bee City.

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

The City of Brampton educates residents through a variety of community engagement programs such as the Parks Environmental Stewardship Program, the Community Garden Program, the Backyard Garden Program, Seedy Saturday, and Gardens of Brampton Program. These programs encourage and educate residents to undertake pollinator friendly gardening techniques.

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

The City released a social media campaign during Pollinator Week to showcase the importance of pollinator friendly activities and actions that residents can engage in. Due to COVID-19, the City held a series of virtual activities such as a pollinator themed treasure hunt and downloadable colouring pages.

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

- Continuing with our existing programs and initiatives including, adding new locations to our No Mow Program and Naturalization Program.
- Begin Phase 2 pollinator beds at Loafers Lake
- Partner with the Girl Guides to maintain beds at McMurchy Park
- Create a new pollinator bed at the Earnscliffe community garden
- Attend June 25 market to give out free native plant seeds and provide information on pollinators
- Create a volunteer training course to teach residents how to maintain pollinator beds
- Develop a photo contest to be held during pollinator week
- Partner with the Brampton Public Library to showcase a pollinator based storybook walk
- Integrate a Sustainable Garden award to the Brampton Garden Recognition Program that will incorporate pollinator gardens.
- Updating our Weed and Grass Cuttings Bylaw to allow more flexibility in the types of gardens allowed

including native and pollinator gardens.

Provide information about any events, activities or initiatives that you have organized and would like highlighted through our social media channels.

We may have some at a later date.

Please provide the URL of your Bee City webpage.

<https://www.brampton.ca/pollinators>

Bee City Renewal Fees

500,001 – 1,000,000 population - \$1000

We welcome your comments and suggestions to help us improve Bee City Canada.

So far it has been a great and positive experience being a Bee City. Found your Garden Bylaw Webinar very helpful and interesting.

Would love to hear from a few different local Ontario municipalities and Conservation Authorities about their experiences on creating and maintaining meadow habitat in different types/size of in public lands (Parks, NHS Other), including challenges, successes and findings. Particularly focusing on maintenance of the sites.

Also, another topic is how local Ontario Municipalities established meadows along pipelines and Hydro Corridors (e.g. TRCA with their Meadoway and City of Guelph with their hydro lines.) and how they worked with the utility companies.