



Bee City Renewal 2024

Community Name

Collingwood

Province

Ontario

Name of Mayor, Chief or Chair of Commission

Yvonne Hamlin

Job Title

Mayor

Name

Jessica Lehr

Applicant's Job Title

Volunteer

Organization or Department

Pollinate Collingwood

address

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Are you the Bee City Liaison?

Yes

Please add more rows as needed.

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David Ohrling	Collingwood Climate Action Team	ccatcommengage@gmail.com

Please tell us about your efforts during the past year to create, enhance, and manage habitat for pollinators. Examples of these actions include habitat planning and creation, habitat management, practices that minimize harm to pollinators, such as minimizing exposure to pesticides and artificial nighttime light, and efforts to empower and incentivize residents to create habitat, such as plant giveaways and modifications to property by-laws (see checklist below for more examples).

The Town of Collingwood, Pollinate Collingwood, local groups, and individuals continue to create, add to, and enhance local pollinator habitat. In 2023 the Collingwood Garden Club worked with Pollinate Collingwood to create a new garden at Home Horizon, a safe and transitional home for youth. The garden was planted with 3 serviceberry and 59 plants. Several existing pollinator gardens in town received additional plants to replace plants or add to the existing variety. The rewilding stretch of land along Poplar Sideroad continued with the addition of 35 new native trees. 81 new gardens under the Town of Collingwood's Canopy Bees and Trees were put in. The Canopy program subsidizes Town residents for planting pollinator species. In addition to the 120 plants put in the ground by Pollinate Collingwood, over 525 plants were handed out to the public for planting at home.

Habitat created or enhanced

15 m²

Plants

120

Seed (lbs)

0

Please provide a list of plant species that were included in efforts to create or enhance pollinator habitat this year.

Prairie dropseed
Lanceleaf coreopsis
Hoary vervain
Butterflyweed
White goldenrod
Purple coneflower
Pearly everlasting
Golden Alexander
Evening primrose
Turtlehead
Little bluestem
Bee balm
Common milkweed
Slender vervain
Oxeye sunflower
Blue vervain
Serviceberry
Oak
Aspen
White pine
Red maple

1.1 HABITAT PLANNING AND CREATION

- 1.1.1 Create native plant pollinator gardens
- 1.1.2 Create edible gardens, orchards, and food forests
- 1.1.3 Create habitat networks
- 1.1.4 Naturalize large habitat areas
- 1.1.6 Develop habitat guides and tools to streamline projects

1.2 HABITAT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- 1.2.2 Restrict chemical applications that can negatively impact pollinators
- 1.2.3 Set habitat standards and recommendations for urban development

- 1.2.4 Promote pollinator-friendly practices in community gardens
- 1.2.5 Restrict urban honey beekeeping
- 1.2.9 Create a pollinator habitat map

1.3 EMPOWERING AND INCENTIVIZING RESIDENTS TO CREATE HABITAT

- 1.3.3 Provide pollinator habitat grants and rebates
- 1.3.4 Offer native plant giveaways and subsidized sales
- 1.3.5 Provide pollinator-friendly garden consultations

Have you taken any habitat creation and management actions that you feel have not been captured adequately by this checklist? If so, please tell us below.

Please note that the new habitat by square meters represents the Home Horizon garden. The pounds of seeds has not been included because the seeds were not measured in pounds during 2023. However, over 750 seed packets were handed out to the public, with each packet containing about a teaspoon of seeds. Within the Town's 2023 developing Pollinator Protection Plan, changes to bylaws and planting on boulevards were discussed.

Please tell us about your efforts during the past year to provide pollinator education and engagement opportunities to members of your community, including residents, employees, contractors, children, and other groups. Examples of these actions include promotion of pollinators through media channels and signage, providing education and engagement opportunities, such as talks and planting events, developing educational resources, such as local native plant and pollinator lists, and raising awareness about pollinators at broader community events (see checklist below for more examples)

The Town of Collingwood and Pollinate Collingwood were very busy in education and engagement in 2023. To begin the year, Pollinate Collingwood provided an information session and seed plant for the local YMCA Youth Exchange Program. Local youth, as well as youth from Newfoundland, attended. In April, Pollinate Collingwood attended the Town's Earth Day event. At the event Pollinate Collingwood had information sheets, activities for children, and seeds for handing out. In May, the Town of Collingwood had a media blitz on No Mow May. During June, Pollinate Collingwood led a panel discussion, held a plant give away at the Collingwood Farmers Market, handed out free plants at the Collingwood Garden Club's annual spring plant sale, and led a talk at the Heritage Park community garden for the Collingwood Youth Centre chef program. The Town of Collingwood held an open house regarding the development of the Town's developing Pollinator Protection Plan. The information session was led by Bee City Canada and covered what a pollinator protection plan is, as well as discussed what people might want in it. In terms of signage, Pollinate Collingwood developed a new metal Pollinator Garden sign. These signs are being placed at Town native plant gardens as well as at some businesses and residences. In addition to these signs, single species signs were made for the Learning Garden at the Simcoe Street Theatre. The single species signs have an image of a species in the garden, as well as an informative fact about the species. New educational handouts for the public, created by Pollinate Collingwood, focused on planting from seeds, including overwintering. Finally, the Town's Pollinator Story Map was updated.

Number of people reached through education and engagement efforts

855

2.1 MEDIA, EDUCATION, AND MATERIALS

- 2.1.1 Promote pollinator conservation through media channels
- 2.1.2 Provide education and awareness materials about pollinators
- 2.1.3 Use signage to educate residents and promote membership in Bee City Canada
- 2.1.5 Educate youth about pollinators through schools and camps

2.2 ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- 2.2.1 Feature pollinator talks and workshops
- 2.2.2 Organize pollinator exhibits and day events
- 2.2.7 Feature pollinators at broader community events
- 2.2.8 Seek community feedback through public consultations and surveys

Have you taken any education and engagement actions that you feel have not been captured in this checklist? If so, please tell us below.

Pollinate Collingwood had 6 volunteers (Volunteers Without Waivers as the volunteers called themselves). The volunteers were instrumental in maintaining 4 Town gardens. The volunteers would liaison with Pollinate Collingwood for any additional plants, compost, or wood chips required.

Please tell us about your efforts to celebrate Pollinator Week this past year. Examples of these actions include promoting Pollinator Week through a proclamation and other communications, hosting a Pollinator Week festival, unveiling pollinator-themed public art, hosting a habitat creation or maintenance event, providing Pollinator Week giveaways, and anything else that you are doing to promote pollinators during this time (see checklist below for more examples).

During Pollinator Week both Pollinate Collingwood and the Town of Collingwood provided social media posts related to the week. Pollinate Collingwood, with support of the Town, held a panel talk at the Simcoe Street Theatre. Panelists included Ben Caesar of Fiddlehead Nursery, Carrington Lauzon representing eARTh Revival native plant nursery, Anja Lowrance as a local Master Gardener, and members of Pollinate Collingwood. Free plants, information sheets, and seeds were handed out at the evening event. The event was well received. Pollinate Collingwood attended the Collingwood Farmers Market on the Saturday of Pollinator Week and handing out free plants, information, and seeds.

3.1 ACTIONS TO PROMOTE POLLINATOR WEEK

- 3.1.2 Put up banners, signs, and displays
- 3.1.3 Launch a social media campaign

3.2 ACTIONS TO CELEBRATE POLLINATOR WEEK

- 3.2.1 Host a pollinator festival
- 3.2.7 Provide pollinator-themed giveaways

Has your community posted Bee City Canada signage?

Yes

Has your community created a Bee City website or webpage?

No

Please share plans that you have to support pollinators this coming year. It may help to refer to the action checklists in the previous sections as you plan future initiatives.

Formalize the Town of Collingwood Pollinator Protection Plan
Begin the roll out or work as outlined in the Town of Collingwood Pollinator Protection Plan
Attend the local Earth Day event
Attend the Collingwood Farmers' Market on the Saturday of Pollinator Week
Continue to maintain and add to local native pollinator gardens
Provide the Canopy Bees and Trees incentive program to Town residents
Continue to work toward the Town having a greenhouse in which both vegetables and native pollinator plants are grown all year round
Pollinate Collingwood to provide an autumn education event
Creation of a window display at the Town Hall focusing on both the Town and Pollinate Collingwood's pollinator work (to be determined)
Continue to update the Town's Pollinator Story Map
Pollinate Collingwood to attend the Collingwood Garden Club's spring plant sale

Select the appropriate fee based on your community's population.

10,000 – 25,000 population - \$200

Payment Method

Offline

Have you had any challenges with pollinator initiatives that you would like to have more support with?

There is need for a look into waivers for volunteers that assist with putting in native plant gardens and maintaining them.

Are there any topics that you would like us to provide more information about through webinars, blog posts, newsletters, or social media?

Blogs on how native plants can help support positive climate change initiatives (carbon sequestration, help with flood prevention, no need, or less need to mow, etc.).

Applicant's Signature

Jessica Lehr

Date

2024-02-28