

# Carson City Bee City USA #76 2019 Annual Report



The Carson City Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to designate Carson City, NV as the first Bee City USA affiliate in Nevada on October 18, 2018.

2019 was a busy and exciting first year for the Carson City Bee City USA #76 Program! This report includes a snapshot of Bee City USA activities and accomplishments during our first year.

This report will include information on the following:

- Acknowledgements
- Habitat Creation
- Outreach Events
- Public Meetings



## Acknowledgements

Carson City would like to thank the Great Basin Beekeepers of Nevada for their passion and support throughout the process of receiving the Bee City USA designation, in addition to funding the annual program establishment fees. Carson City would not have received this designation if it weren't for the hard work and dedication of this group.

Additionally, Carson City would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their continued support and assistance: Carson City Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Department; 2019 Carson City Chamber Leadership Group; Greenhouse Project; Greenhouse Garden Center; Carson City Historical Society; The Carson Water Subconservancy District; Carson City Climate Action Committee; Mark Twain Garden Club; the Carson City Culture and Tourism Authority and countless residents and volunteers who rolled up their sleeves to help create pollinator habitat.

## Habitat Creation

Summary: In 2019, Carson City seeded approximately **240** acres of disturbed landscape with a pollinator friendly seed blend. Primarily, this acreage included areas that had been burned by wildfire in previous years. In addition to seeding activities, Carson City worked to establish specific areas of new pollinator habitat – including a Pollinator Garden and Carson City Chamber Leadership 'Bee Hotel' at our Foothill Garden. We would especially like to thank our partnerships with Carson City Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department, The Greenhouse Project and the 2019 Carson City Chamber Leadership Group for their efforts in establishing this new pollinator habitat in Carson City.

### Chamber Leadership Bee Hotel

Following Carson City's designation as a Bee City USA in 2018, the Carson City Chamber Leadership group wanted to complete a project dedicated to pollinator conservation. As a result, they designed and installed a Bee Hotel at our Foothill Garden Site – an area that already supported sustainable agriculture and food



production in Carson City. Now, with the inclusion of the Bee Hotel the Foothill Garden has become an amazing site for children and adults alike to learn more about the connection between our food and pollinator services.



Foothill Pollinator Garden





### Restoration Activities

Below are photos of the flowers and forbs that started to come back after a 220-acre wildfire. Some of these flowers established naturally, while some were included in the seed blend that was used to restore the disturbed area. This area is located adjacent to the Carson River and is an important natural resource for pollinators.



### Pollinator Friendly Plant List

Carson City Parks, Recreation & Open Space staff worked to compile a list of pollinator friendly plants that are native to this area or are locally adapted for use in restoration, landscaping or development proposals. Nearly 160 plants were included on this list, and it includes local sources for obtaining seedlings or seeds. Carson City has since made it a condition of approval to prospective property developers in Carson City that 50% of the plant palette proposed for their development must be selected from this list. So far developers have been very willing and excited to comply with this condition and our hope is to create pockets of habitat throughout the City with this approach. The list is also available via our Bee City webpage for residents to use for home and garden plant selections as well.

## Education and Outreach Events

Summary: Getting the word out about pollinator conservation is an essential component for the Carson City Bee City USA #76 group. An aware and engaged community is crucial for helping us accomplish our primary goals of educating the public on what they can do in their own homes and yards to preserve and protect pollinators. In 2019, approximately 25 events were held throughout Carson City to promote pollinator conservation and awareness. These events ranged from Earth Day, to guided hikes, to beekeeping classes. We are especially proud of the outreach we have done this year and look forward to getting more involved with the community in 2020!

2019 Education and Outreach Events		
Date	Name	Location
January 9	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Bee City USA Meeting	Carson City Community Center
January 25 & 26	Beginning Beekeeping Class	Bee Magic Building
February 22 & 23	Beekeeping Plus Class	Bee Magic Building
March 1 & 2	Beekeeping Plus Class	Bee Magic Building
March 30	Pollinator Garden Volunteer Workday I	Foothill Pollinator Garden
April 3	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Bee City USA Meeting	Carson City Community Center
April 6	Learn to GROW: Gardening Workshop	Carson City Community Center
April 18 & 19	Capital City Farm Days	Fuji Park and Fairgrounds
April 20	Wildflower Walk	Longview Trail
April 28	Earth Day	Robert's House
May 18	Kids to Parks Day	Silver Saddle Ranch
May 19	Pollinator Garden Volunteer Workday II	Foothill Pollinator Garden
June 7	Bee Hotel Ribbon Cutting	Foothill Pollinator Garden
June 15	Pollinator Class	Greenhouse Garden Center
June 16-22	National Pollinator Week	City-wide
June 17	Pollinator Interpretive Hike	Longview Trail
June 19	Pollinator Tot Trek	Carson River Park
June 22	Pollinator Garden Volunteer Workday III	Foothill Pollinator Garden
July 1-30	Carson City Library Display	Carson City Library
July 24	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Bee City USA Meeting	Carson City Community Center
August 17	National Honeybee Day	City-wide
August 19	World Bee Day	City-wide
August 24	Citizen Science iNaturalist Workshop	Foothill Pollinator Garden
September 7	Pollinator Garden Volunteer Workday IV	Foothill Pollinator Garden
October 2	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Bee City USA Meeting	Carson City Community Center

Earth Day: 2019 Earth Day was co-sponsored by the Great Basin Beekeepers of Nevada and the Carson City Historical Society and held the theme "Celebrating Pollinators" to teach residents about our recent Bee City designation, as well as pollinator conservation practices. The day also featured guest speakers who spoke about Integrated Pest Management and chemical reduction strategies, planting for pollinators and climate change impacts to pollinator conservation.





CARSON CITY EARTH DAY  
*Celebrates*  
*Pollinators*

Sunday, April 28  
 10:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
 Foreman-Roberts House  
 1207 N. Carson St., Carson City,

Exhibitors include:  
 Local Garden Clubs  
 Great Basin Beekeepers  
 of Nevada  
 Cooperative Extension  
 Greenhouse Garden Center  
 and many others

Learn how you and your  
 family can protect pollinators  
 and the environment.  
 Information Sessions  
 on the lawn.

Bring the whole family!  
 Fun and educational exhibits  
 on gardening, integrated  
 pest management and  
 growing plants and flowers  
 that benefit pollinators.

Hosted courtesy of Carson City Historical Society  
 co-sponsored by Great Basin Beekeepers of Nevada  
 and Bee City USA #76 - Carson City

Farm Days

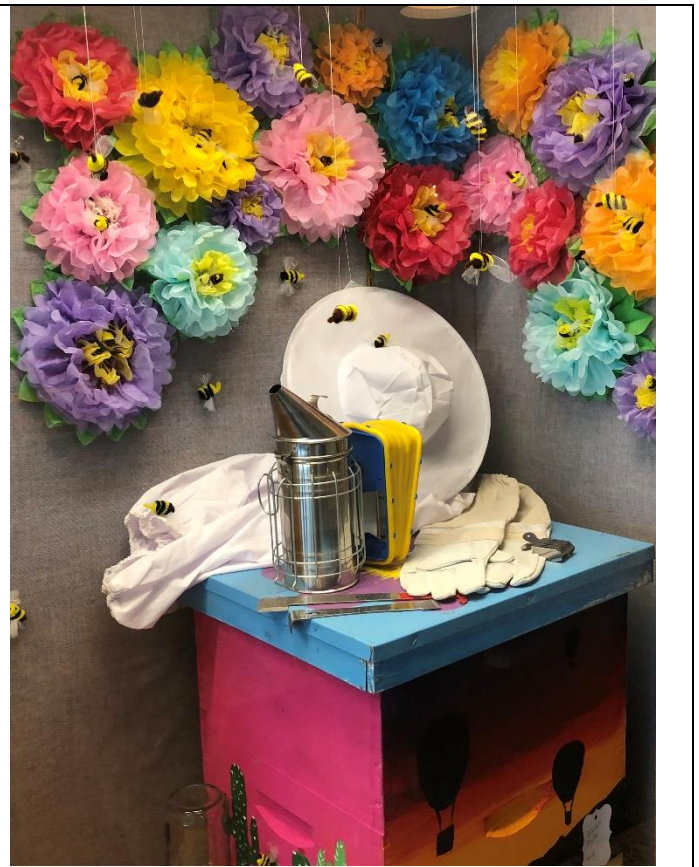
Farm Days is an annual education event for pre-K to elementary aged children. The focus of the event is animal husbandry and agriculture and is a very important event for groups like the Great Basin Beekeepers of Nevada (GBBN). Approximately 2,000 children participate in the event each year, and with the help of GBBN they learn about how important bees are to pollinate the one in three bites of food we eat. Additionally, they get the opportunity to taste some delicious local honey while they are there.





## Public Meetings

Summary: After designation as a Bee City USA, Carson City worked to form a group of committee members to help guide the program. The committee is made up of Carson City staff and Great Basin Beekeepers of Nevada members who were integral to the Bee City designation process. The Carson City Bee City USA #76 Committee held four public meetings – January, April, July and October – to help educate the public about the Bee City Program, Introduction to Beekeeping, as well as a special event held at Greenhouse Garden Center to educate the public on protecting pollinators in their yards during fall clean-up. We look forward to engaging the public similarly in 2020.



## Contact

This annual report was compiled by Lyndsey Boyer, Senior Natural Resource Specialist for Carson City Parks, Recreation & Open Space with input from the Carson City Bee City #76 Committee and Great Basin Beekeepers of Nevada. If you are interested in obtaining more information about the Carson City Bee City USA #76 or would like to get more involved, please contact us at the information below. Thank you and Bee Happy!



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