

Parks & Public Landscaping Advisory Board Agenda

**August 2, 2023
Library Meeting Room
951 Spruce Street
6:30 PM**

Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.

- You can call in to **+1 408 638 0968 or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free)**, Webinar ID # 885 1622 9475
- You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website here to link to the meeting: www.louisvilleco.gov/pplab

The Board will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board prior to the meeting at AMcneal@LouisvilleCO.gov.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
- VI. Staff Updates
 - Lou's Adventures and NRPA Parks and Recreation Month- wrap up
 - Communications- update
 - Medians- update

Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303 335-4536 or MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov. A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

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- Playgrounds- update
 - i. Meditation Gardens

VII. Board Updates

VIII. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

IX. Adjourn

**Parks & Public Landscaping
Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
July 5, 2023
Library Meeting Room
951 Spruce Street
6:30 PM**

I. **Call to Order** – Co-Chairperson Laurie Harford called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

II. **Roll Call**

Board Members:

Ellen Toon (Committee Chair) - present on Zoom

Laurie Harford (Co-Chair) - present

Signe Maria Buck - present

Shannon Mihaly - present

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Cynthia Corne Musselwhite - present

Patricia Rogers - present

John Webb - present

Board Members Absent:

None

Staff Members Present:

Abby McNeal (Parks Superintendent)

Adam Blackmore (Director of Parks, Recreation, and Open Space)

Guests:

Councilwoman Fahey - present on Zoom

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve – Cynthia

Seconded – Laurie

The agenda was unanimously approved.

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IV. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the June 7, 2023

Motion to approve – Signe

Seconded – Laurie

Minutes of June 7 meeting were unanimously approved with minor corrections.

V. Public Comment on Issues not on the Agenda

None

VI. Staff Updates

Decarbonization

- Main focus for decarbonization is on building and structures but as it impacts parks, this focus is on equipment
- **Equipment:**
 - As we have funding and replacement plans, the city is looking at electric as an option but this depends on what is available that fits our needs.
 - As we cycle out older equipment, we can look for an equal match in an electric model; we need the best performance match for our needs
 - Need to make sure city infrastructure can support it.
 - There may be new and improved electric equipment as we look to replace in future years.
 - The current electric equipment lasts for 4-5 hours per charge. Staff can put the battery on the charger for the next user in the same day.
 - Need to document and onboard equipment while decommissioning older equipment.

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- Question from a board member: Is tree maintenance, etc. part of this assessment in terms of growth of equipment and personnel?
 - Answer: Carbon reduction via tree plantings was not considered.
 - We are part of a county program (rapid urban forestry) to bring more trees into suburban areas. This is a different effort to enhance tree canopy - 5-10 year outlook and we are just in the beginning stages of this. Chris Lichty (City Forester), can provide an update on this at a future meeting.
 - Need to establish what staff can do as a team and where the city can use help via contractors - e.g. contract mowing, pruning to help the team
- Question from board member on how this initiative started
 - Answer: City Council initiated this discussion and plan. Energy initiative was brought up a few years ago; aim to be carbon neutral by 2030 and staff is looking to see if this is achievable by 2030 and where we are with regards to this plan.

Project Updates

Medians and Playgrounds:

Medians

- Between 88th and St. Andrews - on target to complete in the next few weeks on this project
- Via Appia - next (to just past Rec center) - will have lane closures which will impact traffic
- McCaslin - to follow Via Appia
- There has been some exchange of some materials for the median landscaping due to availability but staff is involved with this to meet original intent of plants

Playgrounds

- Joe Carnival and Meadows

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- Joe Carnival survey - 265 were aware, 154 were informed participants
- Some direction to design team on themes and equipment
- Meeting on Wed, July 12 5-545 PM at Joe Carnival with public to discuss plans and options
- Meeting to follow at Meadows from 6 - 645 PM with public display boards, etc.
- Another public meeting in August for final designs - Joe Carnival and Meadows; should be at PPLAB or Open House, could be a combined meeting
- Joe Carnival and Meadows first because working with state program (GOCO - Great Outdoors Colorado) for funding
- Land Surveyor has come out
- Abby met with part of the design team and Bryon Webber (Staff Project Manager) at Enclave to discuss water channels and where spaces are left for feature in this park.
- Additional public meetings and discussions for Enclave and Sunflower when we get to these parks
 - Enclave and Sunflower have funding from grant for parks lost due to disaster

Other:

- Lots of questions from public about tree removal - every tree coming out is an impacted Ash, will be replaced by diverse selection of trees
 - There is a plan for replanting the trees that are being removed
- Native and pollinator friendly plantings following removal of turf, will maintain canopy

Adventures with Lou (see attached notes)

- July is national parks and recreation month
- Adventures with Lou program - Theme is “Where Communities Grow”
- Passport book that will include Lou with story at various locations

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- By turning in the passport, entered into drawing for prizes
- Engagement to get out - includes open space and trails: Harper Lake, Meadows Park, Golf Course, Davidson Mesa, Rec Center
- Launching July 11th at the Proclamation - on consent agenda at City Council

Art in front of City Hall

- No update
- Pollinator garden not yet installed; will not be until update for sculpture
- Milkweed is there naturally

Follow up Boards and Commissions

- Looking for PPLAB feedback on potentially combining RAB and PPLAB - Abby is here to gather feedback. RAB was in support.
- RAB was the only Advisory Board that gave consideration to combination; there is some crossover with this group, especially as they have specific items with bond initiative coming up.
- Recommendation from the City Manager was to maintain the board in current status.
- There has been other discussion on term limits on chairs, board size cap to 7, term limits on boards.
- PPLAB feedback:
 - One board member sees us as central; seeking contributions from other groups.
 - One board member is more in favor of a combination with OSAB, not RAB. RAB has more indoor community space. How long would meetings be if we combined?
 - One board member is also not in favor. When the board changed to PPLAB in 2015, the consensus was that combining RAB would be too much for one board. Formally combining would be hard for board members and staff. GCAB and RAB had a lot at that point with the rec center. PPLAB's scope has expanded from just parks to medians and public landscaping.

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- Would we go to one giant meeting? More meetings? Who would volunteer for certain boards - e.g. someone could be very passionate about rec but not so much about medians; don't want to spread ourselves too thin.
- Could have OSAB/PPLAB/RAB align on objectives. Once per quarter, twice per year, consolidated meeting? PPLAB is the central point of conversation between various groups.
- One board member not in favor due to the priorities of PPLAB vs. RAB. Seconds infrequent combined meeting.
- One board member notes that it is important for us to advocate for our focus for PPLAB vs. RAB POV. Sees a gap with public works. PPLAB has a view into public works priorities and with our education mission, we can work on how we communicate upcoming closures. One of the largest budget areas doesn't have a board that they communicate with; would like to see our mission expanded vs. combined with RAB.
- Feedback for Council from various boards:
 - Every single board requested more regular interaction with the City Council; this will be wrapped into one resolution.
 - Council for review and approval in full meeting for work plans so they know what the priorities and focus is. Not so much staff-driven.
 - Council will also engage with the board on work plan.
 - Council also discussed other interaction opportunities - dinners, liaisons, etc. Received as notes and will be wrapped into resolution later.

VII. Board Updates

- **Question from a board member on the use of parks for meditation and stress relief for adults - is there a plan or is there money?**
 - Answer: Idea that was discussed but no money committed. When we get to the public process for Sunflower, can discuss it there.

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- Board member thinks this is a great idea for adults to have a space; will also see if there is any Rec programming that is related.

- **Bee City USA update**
 - Meeting this evening
 - Discussion on activities for Bee City budget
 - Banner for a booth at City gatherings e.g. Memorial Day, Farmers Market
 - Budget items for expenses for Art Contest
 - Speaker fees for meeting at library on native plant garden
 - Stickers for Bee City Louisville
 - Tshirts, etc. to promote pollinator habitat
 - School pollinator gardens - Butterfly Pavilion has a program where they show how to make pollinator gardens which would become program at school
 - Would like to bring back a draft calendar at next meeting; 3-4 projects and put to calendar for planning towards these events/projects
 - Went to native plant swap in Ft. Collins sponsored by Ft. Collins water district, focused on xeriscape, small festival at City Hall
 - ~200 people showed up, some exchanged at tables organized via Wild Ones
 - Might be fun to do in Louisville in year or two as it takes coordination between water dept, Parks, open space
 - Plants came from volunteer donors - potted native plants; divisions of grass, 10-15 varieties of plants
 - Louisville Lighting Ordinance - in favor of asking CC to approve lighting ordinance
 - Lights interact with insects
 - 3 to 5 to 10 years to conform based on the lighting

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- OSAB took this up, wanted rep from planning to come and discuss; may want to add this as a future guest to PPLAB

- **Messaging to the public related to upcoming median construction and mowing: how can this board support communication?**
 - After pandemic and fires, now have rain and new staff and sensitivity to tall grasses
 - Public would like more communication on mowing plans between open space and parks
 - Need to be reasonable with Parks team on what is the expectation, how much communication to put out
 - Would be good to have conversation on process for comms
 - What is the schedule? Does it go into fall/winter?
 - Deadline was today; will have webpage Monday for all of this information on all social media
 - PPLAB can share this with the community
 - Will not be a schedule; broken up by areas to mow (in parks there is bluegrass, other types, in open space we have), other projects (regenerative mowing, weed pulling)
 - Parks is trying to be proactive; trying to provide mapping for parks spaces (native areas, for example), even with all rain, every park has been mowed 1x per week
 - Wildfire Risk Assessment - Sept 5th final report which will inform future actions
 - Will include wastewater treatment, goats, mowing, etc.
 - Wildfire Mitigation add to agenda - can we put this on agenda for September
 - People would like to know more coming up to tax discussions

- **Resource Central** - Monday for firewise landscape development; free

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- Bring in staff to share what we are doing in terms of firewise landscaping - August or September meeting
 - Combined plant lists
 - Updated this on the parks website, office of sustainability pushed out collaborative plant lists

VIII. Decarbonization Overview

- Discussed previously; no other additional discussion

IX. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

- Public communications
- Visit from streetscape staff member
- Light ordinance discussion
- What does Staff need from PPLAB? Especially with tax item coming up
 - Going into biennial budget (more review and status of where we are)
 - Better understanding in October to see where we are
- Scope discussion, what do we want to expand/repurpose which feeds into work plan
- Meditative space and Sunflower Park follow-up in August
 - Councilwoman Fahey:
 - Would love to see one in Enclave Park
 - Also a note that pollinator gardens attract rodents and snakes - can we consider consequences for pollinator gardens?

X. Motion to Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn made by Laurie

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- Seconded by Cynthia
- Unanimously approved
- Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

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Parks, Open Space, Recreation and Golf- Communications update

Provided by Ginger Cross, Senior Marketing Specialist 07/24/2023

Joe Carnival and Meadows Park-

- Online survey (149 people engaged –high engagement for a non-confrontational subject)
- Postcards (1000 mailed)
- Signs in Park with QR Code (115 scans)
- Over 140 people attended the in-person meeting due to outreach

Mowing

- New mowing webpage with chart
- Working on adding FAQ
- Social media posts

Redesigned Parks landing webpage

Medians

- Website article
- Infographic
- Social Media Posts

Community Park

- Fence Project
- Dog Park resurfacing

PROS Projects Web Page (new)

- Working on a web page to list all of our projects
- This may turn into a citywide project page

Social Media Posts have included:

- Horticulture – annual planting
- Spray Pad opening
- Weeding
- New Water filling station downtown
- Tennis court repair
- Arbor Day
- Bee City Art Contest

Community Update Articles

Write all PROS articles for the community update which is printed and mailed to every home.

Open Space comms include biocontrol, coyote run trail project, prairie dog barriers, grazing campaign, and education events.

MEDITATION GARDENS

This is a short commentary for members of PPLAB to consider the possibility of establishing a meditation garden in Louisville.

WHAT IS A MEDITATION GARDEN

Put simply, meditation gardens are consciously designed, low maintenance, outdoor areas created explicitly for tranquility and relaxation, away from the oftentimes chaotic modern world. These intimate, meditative spaces offer a place to unwind outside the noise and clutter of daily routines. At its core, a meditation garden is any natural space that allows you to disconnect. Whatever your age, meditation can help reduce stress levels, sharpen focus, and generate happiness and well-being.

KEY ELEMENTS

The area should have a sense of enclosure. Whether it's a wall, fence, a hedge of plants or a line of trees. Creating a sense of privacy from the outside world is a key element. It should have a defined entrance. This could be a gate, arbor, statuary, or even a small sign or plaque.

There are other elements that are generally featured in meditation gardens. Seating for example - this could be a log, a tree stump, a boulder, or a bench. A winding path is common - gravel, dirt, pavers, etc. Water, which has a calming effect, is a key feature of the garden - gently running water, a bubbling fountain or a still pool that reflects its surroundings. Some gardens have statuary and/or signs that encourage the individual to slow down and observe their surroundings (e.g., "Feel the breeze, feel the sun, soak it in").

A particularly interesting type of meditation garden is the "labyrinth" garden. It's usually a single long, winding line that looks complicated only from afar. Up close, you simply follow the curves one step at a time to make your way through the labyrinth.

BENEFITS

- Relieves stress, anxiety and even depression;
- It re-energizes you and increases concentration;
- Increased sun exposure is thought to increase serotonin which improves mood and serenity;
- May help lower blood pressure and strengthen the immune system,

MEDITATIONS GARDENS ARE EVERYWHERE!

Some examples:

Marti's Meditation Garden in Ft. Lauderdale, FL [Marti's Meditation Garden – Friends of Birch State Park](#)

Meditation Area at Audubon Park, New Orleans, LA [Meditation area dedicated at Audubon Park | Louisiana Festivals | nola.com](#)

Meditation Garden, Moberly, MO [Meditation Garden | Moberly, MO \(moberlymo.org\)](#)

Some are associated with spiritual or religious centers. For example:

There is one in Boulder: Sacred Heart of Mary Meditation Garden [Sacred Heart of Mary Meditation Garden-Colorado Landscape Architecture Firm | Design Concepts \(dcla.net\)](#)

Self-Realization Fellowship Meditation Gardens In California: Encinitas ([Visiting | Self-Realization Fellowship Encinitas Temple](#)); Pacific Palisades ([Home - Self-Realization Fellowship Lake Shrine](#)); Los Angeles ([Meditation Gardens — Peace Awareness Labyrinth & Gardens \(peacelabyrinth.org\)](#))

MY PERSONAL THOUGHTS

In the minimal research that I have done on this topic, my takeaway is that meditation gardens come in all sizes, don't necessarily require major landscaping or changes, and could fit into any of our parks with just a tweak here and there. At Community Park, for example, there is a fenced area (not completed though) with a path around one of the little lakes. A couple benches have also been added there. Louisville also has a "quasi meditation garden." It's called the Arboretum. With some very minor changes/additions, the Arboretum could serve a dual purpose. I realize that changes, however, minimal, still generate expenses, and these expenses may not fit into the current budget. This paper should serve as the beginning of a thoughtful process that could eventually bring such a garden to Louisville.

Signe Buck
PPLAB Member

2023 PPLAB Work Plan

December 1, 2022

Priority	Program Area	PPLAB Recommendations
	Community Entryways/ HOA	Review maintenance responsibilities for community / HOA entryways Recommend Design and plants palate
	Median Renovations and Playgrounds Projects	Review and support design process for Tiered median and playground projects- McCaslin, Via Appia, Dillon/St Andrews and Playgrounds in Joe Carnival, Meadows, Enclave and Sunflower (feature)
	Bee City USA	Signage, education outreach, renewal application
	Parks and Open Space Sale use Tax	Sales use tax sun setting in 2023 collaborate with OSAB on supporting renewal
	Cottonwood Park Master Plan/Parks Master Plan support	Not currently in the 2023 budget; could be standalone request
	Parks Signage	Prioritize park sign replacement and upgrades
	Arboretum	Provide input on upgrades to Arboretum and replanting of trees

Requests are in no order of priority.

Parks & Public Landscaping Advisory Board Bee City USA Subcommittee

Agenda

August 2, 2023

Louisville Library Board Room

951 Spruce Street

5:30 PM

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The Subcommittee will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Subcommittee prior to the meeting at AMcneal@LouisvilleCO.gov.

- I. Called to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes

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- V.** Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
- VI.** Agenda Posting Location – City Hall, City Website, Louisville Library
- VII.** Staff Report
- VIII.** 2023 Work Plan Discussion and Review
- IX.** Budget and Funding Options
- X.** Louisville Dark Sky Ordinance
- XI.** Discussion Items for Next Meeting
- XII.** Adjourn

Another image from local pollinator garden (no, it is not a bee!):



Parks & Public Landscaping Advisory Board Bee City USA Subcommittee

Agenda

June 7, 2023

Library Board Room

951 Spruce Street

5:30 PM

Members of the public are welcome to attend in person. Remote attendance is not available at this time.

The Subcommittee will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Subcommittee prior to the meeting at AMcneal@LouisvilleCO.gov.

- I.** Meeting Called to Order at 5:35 PM
- II.** Roll Call
Current Members and Guest:
John Webb, Subcommittee Chair
Signe Buck, absent, excused
Josh Cooperman, absent, excused
Susan McEachern, present
Helen Moshak, present

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Signe Buck, absent, excused
Josh Cooperman, absent, excused
Susan McEachern, present
Helen Moshak, present
Amy Yarger, absent, excused
Abby McNeal, Staff Representative, absent
Jean Morgan, Louisville, guest

- III. Approval of Agenda
Motion to approve Agenda, Susan, Seconded, Helen, Agenda approved
- IV. Approval of Minutes
Motion to approve Minutes, Susan, Seconded, Helen, Minutes approved
- V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
None.
- VI. Agenda Posting Location – City Hall, City Website, Louisville Library
- VII. Staff Report
No staff member present
- VIII. 2023 Work Plan Discussion and Review

Planning session calendar for events, set for August. An opportunity to pull together events and create a planning Calendar for the coming year. Further discussion tabled, please bring your events to the August meeting.

Susan, working with Ginger Cross Louisville Communication Specialist, writing up resources for Gardeners, Pollinator Gardeners in city, work in progress.

Susan did second training on impregnating paper with native seeds. Possible name for the project: “Pollinator Promise Paper.” A Boulder County employee is spearheading the program, emphasizing the making of a promise to the earth or the planet, mother nature, BoCo will put together a “makers space” in library, allowing for a drop-in activity for children and adults. Possibility to get program going in September.

Susan will check with Meredith on open meetings guidelines for possible Louisville Bee City USA Subcommittee activities between scheduled Subcommittee meetings.

John to pull together project list, use to set calendar.

Jean had a question on the pollinator garden near Pirates Park, seems to be neglected, maybe needs some attention.

Native plant swap, Dave Sutherland (Susan) native plant advocate, collect your seeds, pocket prairie as a source,

Fall seed collection from community gardens, share in June

Spread the word, donate announcements

Give containers, jars, Lafayette florist pots out front

City

Sr Naturalist position, closed end of June, so a possible outlet,

Communication from City, quarterly newsletter, upcoming activities,

summertime picnic, ss info events, July community update, just before July 4th, a monthly thing, plug in through Ginger??

Louisville publ Library update (can we do a display in the lobby?)

Native seed collection from WildOnes

Rec center, Lvllle historic society

Case in the library for native seed distribution

Collecting bags, soil

IX. Budget and Funding Options

Some possible items for budget in the coming year:

Louisville Bee City Banner for Farmer's Market of Plant Giveaways

Outreach booth - Supplies, Native seeds, Flyers, Booth space rental

Bee City promo stickers, T-shirts, Pollinator Garden signs.

Patricia admired Pollinator friendly plant markers while visiting Chautauqua gardens in Boulder. "Bee Boulder.gov" garden marker. Maybe "Bee City Pollinator friendly?"

Is it possible to make additions to QR code info for Pocket Prairie, or put a few plant ID signs in the gardens? Dutch Creek Pocket Prairie Garden QR

has links to photos of plants. Seems like the QR code could have more information on the link? Not everyone can or has access to QR function.

Suggestion from Susan, our plant lists could have images of the plants or flowers.

Could we use Pollinator Art Contest entry designs to create T-shirts, tote bags, posters, or banners? Pollinator Month decorations for Downtown?

Future K-5 Art Contest prizes for all, due to difficulty with judging and Open Meetings. Sweet Cow gift cards or other prizes could be \$200 or so. Pollinator or Native Plant speaker fees, maybe \$100 for an appearance?

Budget to support school pollinator gardens? Butterfly Pavilion has programs for this! We will need to check with Amy to verify cost, timing, and availability when she returns in Sept.

X. Louisville Dark Sky Ordinance

Bee City Subcommittee expressed unanimous support for Lighting Ordinance, Subcommittee consists of members from OSAB, PPLAB, and SAB. Suggest a memo to request Planning Dept and City Council, "Please make this happen!" New buildings, street lighting could all be Dark Sky friendly. City worked with Xcel Energy on modifying lights to LED but are not Dark Sky Compliant. A lot of ground-level glare for pedestrians. John will contact the Louisville Planning Dept. on status and he plans to appear at City Council Meeting (Lighting Ordinance rescheduled for final reading/approval Aug. 1?).

XI. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

Create straight list of work plan items, to prioritize and schedule for the coming year.

XII. Adjourn

Chair called for motion to Adjourn, Patricia moved to adjourn, Susan seconded, Motion to Adjourn approved. Adjourned 6:25 PM.

Image from local pollinator garden:



Louisville is now a proud member of the national Bee City USA program, and we hope that this sought-after honor will inspire homeowners with established yards and Marshall fire rebuilders who are landscaping from scratch to make their yards pollinator friendly. As an added benefit, the best plants for supporting beneficial insects are native species that require little supplemental water once they are established.

Fall is an ideal time to start, when warm soils and cooler temperatures provide the perfect conditions to establish new plants. Once the ground thaws, Spring is excellent too. Following are resources for everyone who would appreciate a lower water bill, less yard maintenance, more songbirds, and a colorful, healthy, happily buzzing garden. Remember to buy your supplies from a nursery that provides neonicotinoid-free plants so that harmful chemicals won't affect the pollinators you're welcoming to your yard.

The City of Louisville has developed a native pollinator plant list [Ginger, I'm not sure if this is available on-line] and has planted two pocket prairies on Dutch Creek open space, where you can see native pollinator plants thriving.

<https://www.louisvilleco.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/28431/637352595583700000>

The Butterfly Pavilion offers habitat garden workshops that include a 30-minute consultation with a team member. <https://butterflies.org/research-and- conserve/habitat-gardening/>

Denver Urban Gardens offers garden kits and programs on pollinators, composting, and gardening. <https://dug.org/>

Landscaping with Colorado Native Plants Conference is held annually and offers grants for "wildscaping."

[\(https://landscapingwithcoloradonativeplants.wordpress.com/\)](https://landscapingwithcoloradonativeplants.wordpress.com/)

High Plains Environmental Center has a native plant nursery, demonstration gardens and extensive support for habitat restoration at <https://suborbitat.org/support/>

Wild Ones Front Range Chapter holds native plant giveaways in the fall, workshops, and a bee festival. <https://frontrange.wildones.org/>

Denver Botanic Gardens has a wide-ranging education program and demonstration gardens. <https://www.botanicgardens.org/education-programs>

Colorado Native Plant Society sponsors native plant sales, garden tours, and has published an informative guide to native plants that flourish on the Front Range: <https://conps.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Native-Plant-Guide-Front-Range.pdf>

Colorado State University's Extension Service has published Native and Water Wise planting guides, and is available to answer questions at <https://ask2.extension.org/>, and it offers a series of informative videos at <https://planttalk.colostate.edu/>

Resource Central is an organization sponsored by regional water districts that provides free on-line workshops covering every aspect of water-wise gardening and pollinator-friendly landscaping techniques for the Front Range. Their "Garden in a Box" pre-planned gardens are hot items in the Fall and Spring. Homes and properties damaged by the Marshall Fire are eligible for two **Free** "Garden in a Box" plantings at <https://resourcecentral.org/gardens/>

Resource Central also presented and recorded a recent webinar on Firewise Landscaping, available on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zkeC0-UuoH0>

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, the sponsoring organization for Bee City USA, has educational resources and many recorded webinars covering all aspects of invertebrate conservation, including native plants and pollinators, pesticide use, and environmental restoration, all available online through YouTube. Learn more about Bee City USA and invertebrate conservation issues, or access their extensive library of webinars, at <https://www.xerces.org/>

Audubon Rockies Habitat Hero program promotes native plants and waterwise gardening for birds and native pollinators along the Colorado Front Range. They provide regional plant lists, demonstration gardens, tips to create your own Habitat Hero Garden, webinars, and tours of local gardens at <https://rockies.audubon.org/habitat-hero/>.

Work Plan discussion items for Louisville Bee City USA Subcommittee Community Outreach

Replanting Home Landscapes after the Marshall Fire (John)

Supporting our local families and businesses in the planning and replanting of landscapes to support pollinators, featuring native and water-wise plants and turf. This could be a community-wide and long-lasting initiative. Reach out to local nurseries that are neonic-free to see if they'll offer discounts to Marshall Fire victims when they're replanting their yards (Resource Central is offering 2 free Garden in a Box plantings to Marshall Fire community).

Louisville Farmer's Market booth (Laurie, John)

A booth at the Louisville Farmer's Market to spread the word about Bee City USA and the things that Louisville has been doing to promote conservation and habitat restoration for pollinators, including our native bees. We could pass out native plant lists, give away native and pollinator plants for the garden, promote water-wise landscaping. Maybe T-shirts, coffee mugs, and window/bumper stickers? This booth could go on the road to other farmer's markets in the area. Yum, fair food!

Bee and Pollinator-themed Art Contest for Louisville Elementary schools (Patricia)

Patricia made great strides in organizing our first outreach event. Two Louisville Schools participated.

Encourage Pollinator Education at Local Schools (Josh)

The second grade at LES is currently studying insects. We could investigate places in the local school curricula where we could educate students about the importance of pollinators. Can we expand this program and promote Pollinator Gardens at our local schools?

Louisville Community Garden outreach (Signe)

Louisville has community gardens where citizens sign up for a garden area. Can we promote/provide Pollinator Friendly plantings? This would be an easy project to execute.

Pollinator Houses and Native Plant Seed Strips (Susan)

Sponsor a papermaking session with flower seeds impressed in the paper for kids. They can write a note of promise to the pollinators on the paper and then "plant" it so the seeds will germinate.

Coordinate an event at the Home Depot store to build bat and bee houses and help find places to install the houses.

Policy Initiatives to Consider/Support (Josh)

The Louisville City Council will consider a dark night sky lighting ordinance for residential properties later this year. Dark night skies are important for nocturnal pollinators. We could think about advocating for this ordinance.

No Mow May is an international effort to convince people not to mow their lawns during May so that pollinators can make use of all of the flowers that bloom in the spring. We could publicize this effort, and we could ask the City to adopt this policy.

Louisville City Council will also be considering a ban on gasoline-powered landscaping equipment later this year. Studies have shown that air pollution from such equipment negatively impacts insects and mowing and blowing negatively impacts insects and their habitats. We could think about advocating for this ordinance.

The golf course is the only City property where glyphosate and certain other pesticides are permitted. There are a handful of so-called organic golf courses across the world. We could push our golf course towards organic practices including the inclusion of native, pollinator-friendly plantings along the course's edges.