

POLLINATOR HABITAT DOCUMENTATION YEARLY REPORT 2025

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Introduction

Columbus Pollinator Habitats

Columbus Recreation and Parks Department has 37 designated pollinator habitats. Pollinator habitats are areas of native grasses and flowers that provide pollinators with a space to feed, mate, and live.

Program Overview

- Purpose is to collect data on species present in Pollinator Habitats as well as general habitat maintenance needs with the help of volunteers.
- Volunteers used the free mobile application, iNaturalist, to capture observations of species in habitats.
- Deadline of October 31st to record observations.
- Goal of having each habitat surveyed at least once by the deadline.

Trainings

- In-person and virtual options
 - In-Person Training
 - June 5, 2025: Training at Mock Park
 - August 6, 2025: Training at Whetstone Park
 - Explain purpose of program, ideal survey conditions, interactive walking fixed route and recording observations on iNaturalist, completing habitat assessment form
 - Online Training
 - VolunteerHub sign-up. Volunteers are sent an automated email of PDF slideshow containing training video, iNaturalist info, habitat assessment form, habitat signups, and comprehension quiz.
 - Supplemental plant identification training
 - June 17, 2025: Plant Identification Training at Whetstone Park
 - August 12, 2025: Plant Identification Training at Whetstone Park
 - Optionally offered to participants, intended to strengthen volunteers' ability to recognize native and invasive plants during habitat documentation
- Habitat Sign-Up Process
 - Sign-up using VolunteerHub
 - Maps of each habitat included in sign-up

Findings

Interactive Pollinator Habitat Map can be found [here](#).

Volunteer Participation Summary

- Volunteer attendance (trainings)
 - In person trainings:
 - June 5, 2025: Training at Mock Park
 - 47 sign ups, 24 in attendance
 - August 6, 2025: Training at Whetstone Park
 - 44 sign ups, 19 in attendance
 - Virtual trainings:
 - 118 sign ups, 27 comprehension quizzes complete
 - Plant identification trainings:
 - June 17, 2025: Plant Identification Training at Whetstone Park
 - 7 sign ups. 3 in attendance
 - August 12, 2025: Plant Identification Training at Whetstone Park
 - 19 sign ups. 8 in attendance
- 31 pollinator habitats documented
 - 31 habitats documented by 35 volunteers
 - 23 volunteers recorded observations from in-person trainings
 - 22 volunteers recorded observations outside of in-person trainings
 - 1 pollinator habitat documented by staff
 - 1 pollinator habitat not documented (Jeffrey Scioto Park)

Relative to 2024

- Number of volunteer training sign-ups - **67.2% increase** from 2024 to 2025
- Number of completed trainings - **25% increase** from 2024 to 2025
- Number of volunteer self led documentation - **57% increase** from 2024 to 2025
- Number of habitats documented - **11% decrease** from 2024 to 2025

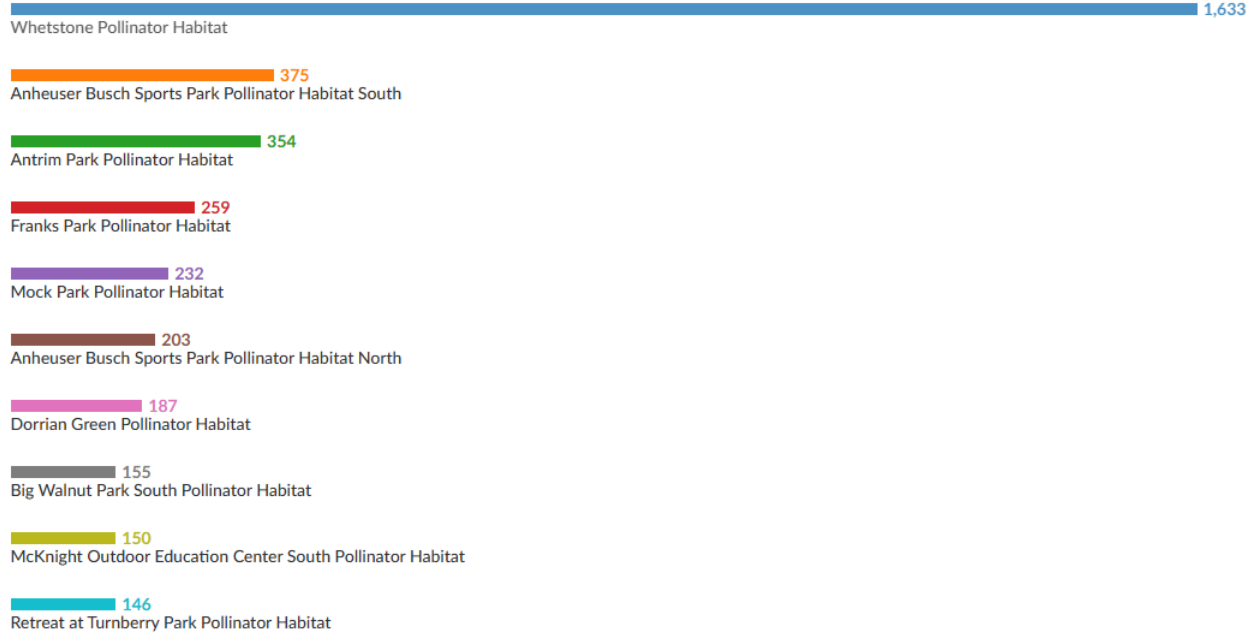
Year	Number of Volunteer Training Sign-ups	Number of Completed Trainings (In-Person and Virtual)	Number of Volunteers that Participated in Self-Led Documentation	Number of Habitats Documented
2022	22	-	7	12
2023	122	-	15	33
2024	125	56	14	35

2025	209	70	22	31
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iNaturalist by the Numbers

Date (date when numbers were pulled from)	Pollinator Habitats	Observations	Species	Observers	Project Followers
December 5, 2024	37	3,842	545	277	57
October 23, 2025	37	5,470	658	345	107

Leaderboard of Observations by Location (pulled from October 23, 2025)



Recommendations from Habitat Summary

See Attachment of Habitat Summary for more information.

- **Habitats in good condition**
 - Anheuser Busch Park- West
 - Brevoort Park
 - Colerain Park
 - Dorrian Green
 - Sharon Meadows Park
- **Habitats for invasive species removal - highlighted in yellow**
 - Clinton Como (all areas)
 - Linden
 - Mock
 - Raymond
 - Stockbridge
 - Stoneridge
 - Three Creeks
 - William's creek

Attachment

Habitat Data Summary

Below is data summarized from the collection of Survey123 responses from volunteers. The highlighted locations are areas that could utilize the most maintenance.

Airport Golf Course

- Invasives: Burdock, teasel, and wild carrot
- Top Species:
 - False sunflower 40%
 - Goldenrod 20%
 - Switchgrass 10%
 - Grasses and cattails 10%
 - Wild teasel 10%

Anheuser Busch Park- South

- Invasives: Thistle, teasel, burdock, amur honeysuckle
- Litter: Small amount
- Top Species:
 - Swamp milkweed 50%
 - Hemp dogbane 40%

- Maximilian sunflower 30%
- Goldenrod 25%
- Senna 20%
- Purple coneflower 5%
- Partridge pea 5%

Anheuser Busch Park- West

- Invasives: Wheatgrass
- Top Species:
 - Goldenrod 70%
 - Bee balm
 - False sunflower
 - Purple coneflower
 - Mountain mint
 - Brown eyed susan
 - Tall ironweed

Antrim Park

- Invasives: Honeysuckle, burdock, grapevine, wild carrot, thistle
- Top Species:
 - Foxglove
 - Goldenrod
 - coneflower
 - sunflower
 - Black eyed susan
 - Milkweed
 - Bee balm
 - Ironweed
 - Wild carrot
 - Brown eyed susan
 - Ragwort
 - Honeysuckle

Bicentennial Park/Miranova

- Invasives: Wild carrot, bindweed, burdock, teasel, thistle, Purple loosestrife - present but not dominating
- Litter: Small amount
- Top Species:
 - Goldenrod
 - Foxtail

- Asters
- Boneset
- False indigo
- Evening primrose
- Common milkweed
- Purple coneflower
- Blackberry
- Purple loosetrife

Big Run Park

- Invasives: wild carrot, creeping thistle
- Top Species:
 - Johnson grass 25%
 - Boneset 35%
 - Ironweed 20%
 - Ragweed 20%
 - Common milkweed 10%
 - Hemp dogbane 10%

Big Walnut Park- North

- Invasives: Volunteers were unsure
- Top Species:
 - Cattails
 - Barnyard grasses
 - Late boneset
 - Wild bergamot
 - Goldenrod
 - Hemp dogbane

Big Walnut Park- South

- Invasives: Teasel, multiflora rose, queen annes lace, porcelain berry
- Litter: Small amount
- Top Species:
 - Goldenrod
 - Hemp dogbane
 - Prairie blazing star
 - Wingstem
 - Giant ragweed
 - American sycamore
 - Brambles

- Joe pye weed
- Common reed
- deer tongue
- Late boneset

Brevoort Park

- Invasives: garlic mustard
- Top Species:
 - Goldenrod
 - Hoary vervain
 - Mountain mint
 - Black eyed susan
 - St johns wort
 - Blue wood aster
 - Beardtongue
 - Great lobelia
 - Mistflower
 - Partridge pea

Carriage Place Park

- Invasives: Thistle, bindweed, wild carrot, prickly lettuce
- Litter: Small amount
- Top Species:
 - Gray coneflower
 - Creeping thistle
 - Goldenrod
 - Common milkweed
 - Bindweed
 - Bee balm
 - Thistle
 - Purple coneflower
 - Wild aster
 - Royal catchyfly
 - trefoils

Clinton-Como Park- North East

- Invasives: wild carrot
- Top Species:
 - Ragweed 80%
 - Cup plant 5%

- Purple coneflower 5%
- Wild carrot 5%
- Goldenrod 5%

Clinton-Como Park- South

- Invasives: honeysuckle, burdock, nonnative grasses, curly dock, thistle, creeping charlie, poison hemlock
- Maintenance Needs Observed?: Lots of thistle
- Top Species:
 - Ragweed 80%
 - Canada thistle 55%
 - Wild rye 40%
 - Tall goldenrod 25%
 - American aster 20%
 - Burdock 10%
 - Milkweed 10%
 - Honeysuckle 10%

Clinton-Como Park- West

- Invasives:
- Litter?:
- Maintenance Needs Observed?:
- Top 5 Species:

Colerain Park

- Invasives: No
- Top 5 Species:
 - Spiderwort 35%
 - Joe pye weed 30%
 - Swamp rose 15%
 - Goldenrod 20%
 - Obedient plant 15%

Dodge Park

- Invasives:
- Litter?:
- Maintenance Needs Observed?:
- Top 5 Species:

Dorrian Green Park

- Invasives: Bindweed and a bit of grapevine
- Top Species:
 - Goldenrod 35%
 - Late boneset 30%
 - Evening primrose 35%
 - Aster 25%
 - Bergamot 20%
 - Daisy fleabane 20%
 - Orange coneflower 10%
 - Timothy grass 15%
 - Devils beggarticks 15%
 - Redbud 10%

Franks Park

- Invasives: queen annes lace, callery pear, curly dock, ragweed
- Top Species:
 - Queen annes lace 75%
 - Asters 30%
 - Ragweed 10%
 - Ironweed 15%
 - Goldenrod 10%

Hoover Prairie

- Invasives: Autumn olive, japanese honeysuckle, queen annes lace
- Top Species:
 - Dogbane 85%
 - Ironweed 40%
 - Swamp milkweed 10%
 - Sunflower 35%
 - Goldenrod 60%
 - Common milkweed 40%
 - Ragweed 35%
 - Brambles 15%

Linden Park

- Invasives: Thistle and bindweed
- Litter?: Small amount
- Top 5 Species:
 - Grasses 80%
 - Thistle 15%

- Reeds 20%

McKnight Outdoor Center- North

- Invasives: burdock, thistle, curly dock and grapevine
- Top Species:
 - Big bluestem 50%
 - Brown eyed susan 15%
 - Swamp rose mallow 10%

McKnight Outdoor Center- South

- Invasives:
- Top 5 Species:
 - Common milkweed 40%
 - Grey-headed coneflower 40%
 - Goldenrod 25%
 - Blue violet 35%
 - Ohio spiderwort 10%

Mock Park

- Invasives: Curly dock, thistle, ground ivy, bindweed, grapevine
- Litter?: Small amount
- Top Species:
 - Tall fescue (grass) 70%
 - Common milkweed 10%
 - Thistle 30%
 - American senna 10%
 - Narrow leaf blue eyed grass 45%
 - Bergamot 15%
 - Red clover 10%
 - Short's sedge 10%
 - Tall dock 10%
 - Mountain mint 10%
 - Lance-leaved coreopsis 50%
 - Common yarrow 30%
 - Foxglove beardtongue 15%

O'Shaughnessy Nature Preserve

- Invasives: teasel
- Top Species:
 - Goldenrod 80%

- Poaceae 80%
- Creeping jenny 30%
- Vernonia gigantea 15%
- Common blackberry 15%

Raymond Memorial Golf Course

- Invasives: callery pear, honeysuckle, teasel, creeping thistle
- Top 5 Species:
 - Poison ivy 50%
 - Callery ear 20%
 - Goldenrod 15%
 - Teasel 5%
 - Grapevine 5%

Retreat at Turnberry Park

- Invasives: Japanese stiltgrass, grapevine, callery pear
- Maintenance Needs Observed?: some young woody plants growing
- Top Species:
 - Goldenrod 75%
 - wingstem 40%
 - Coneflower 10%
 - Switchgrass 25%
 - Purple top tridens 25%
 - Snakeroot 15%
 - Bee balm 15%
 - Grapevine 10%

Sharon Meadows Park

- Invasives: crownvetch
- Top Species:
 - Dogbane 95%
 - Sedges 35%
 - Reed 30%
 - Blazing star 10%
 - Rye 45%
 - Foxglove beardtongue 20%
 - False indian plantain 20%
 - Senna 25%
 - Sunflowers 25%
 - Goldenrod 15%

- Crownvetch 25%
- Coneflower 10%
- Oat grass 10%
- Timothy grass 10%
- Mint 10%
- Bugleweed 15%

Stockbridge Park

- Invasives: creeping thistle, prickly lettuce, bull thistle,
- Top Species:
 - Creeping thistle 50%
 - Prickly lettuce 45%

Stoneridge Park

- Invasives: bradford pear, teasel, honeysuckle, autumn olive, purple crownvetch, bindweed, multiflora rose, grapevine
- Maintenance Needs Observed?: Tons of poison ivy, would not recommend volunteering in this park without full coverage
- Top 5 Species:
 - Goldenrod 50%
 - Poison ivy 30%
 - Dogbane 15%
 - Callery pear saplings 10%

Three Creeks Park

- Invasives: callery pear, bindweed, ragweed, teasel
- Top Species:
 - Giant ragweed 85%
 - Goldenrod 60%
 - Rionweed 20%
 - Grapevine 35%
 - Wild rye 10%
 - Aster 10%
 - Teasel 25%

Topiary Garden

- Invasives: Broadleaf arrowhead
- Top Species:
 - Common yarrow 25%
 - Blackberry lily 20%

- Common serviceberry 15%
- Broadleaf arrowhead 30%
- Eastern cat mint 20%
- Swamp rose mallow 20%
- Purple coneflower 30%
- Colocasieae 10%
- Purple vein geranium 10%
- Live forever 20%

Tuttle Park

- Invasives: burdock and thistle
- Top Species:
 - Purple coneflower 60%
 - cat tails 20%
 - Butterfly bush 25%
 - Goldenrod 20%
 - Thistle 20%
 - Tall blue wild indigo 50%
 - Boneset 20%
 - Black eyed susan 10%
 - Burdock 20%

Whetstone Park

- Invasives: Burdock, poison hemlock, wild carrot, common teasel
- Litter?: small amount
- Top Species:
 - Sunflowers 70%
 - Goldenrod 60%
 - Cup plant 20%
 - Carrots 30%
 - Grasses 30%
 - Foxglove beardtongue 10%
 - Fireweed 20%
 - Ragweed 20%
 - Teasel 10%
 - Creeping thistle 30%
 - Grapevine 10%
 - Bluestems 25%
 - Black eyed susan 25%
 - Wingstem 20%

- Dogbane 10%
- Aster 15%
- Daisy fleabane 15%
- Avens 25%
- Self heal 20%
- Virginia wildrye 10%
- Ironweed 80%
- Canada wildrye 10%

Williams Creek Park

- Invasives: Teasel, callery pear, and a bit of queen annes lace
- Litter?: small amount
- Maintenance Needs Observed?: Volunteer event to remove ragweed
- Top Species:
 - Giant ragweed 70%
 - Teasel 40%
 - Goldenrod 30%
 - Bergamot 10%
 - Callery pear 10%

Woodward Nature Preserve

- Invasives: honeysuckle
- Maintenance Needs Observed?: Difficult to find
- Top Species:
 - Dogbane 55%
 - Goldenrod 25%
 - Agrimony 15%
 - Grasses 35%
 - White vervain 25%
 - Joe pyeweed 15%
 - Wingstem 10%

Worthington Hills Park

- Invasives: wild carrot, purple crownvetch, callery pear
- Top Species:
 - Milkweed 15%
 - Goldenrod 40%
 - Beebalm 60%
 - Alexanders 15%
 - Mountain mint 20%
 - Ashy sunflower 20%

- Asters 35%
- Purple crownvetch 20%
- Ironweed 40%
- Indigo 10%
- Black eyed susan 10%
- Obedient plant 10%
- Fleabane 10%
- Calley pear 10%

	Pollinator Habitat Location	Number of Survey Responses
1	Airport Golf Course	2
2	Anheuser Busch Park- South	2
3	Anheuser Busch Park- West	2
4	Antrim Park	11
5	Bicentennial Park/Miranova	3
6	Big Run Park	2
7	Big Walnut Park- North	2
8	Big Walnut Park- South	3
9	Brevoort Park	4
10	Carriage Place Park	4
11	Clinton-Como Park- North East	1
12	Clinton-Como Park- South	4
13	Clinton-Como Park- West	0
14	Colerain Park	1
15	Dodge Park	0
16	Dorrian Green Park	6
17	Franks Park	2
18	Hoover Prairie	10
19	Linden Park	1
20	McKnight Outdoor Center- North	1
21	McKnight Outdoor Center- South	1
22	Mock Park	14
23	O'Shaughnessy Nature Preserve	1
24	Raymond Memorial Golf Course	1
25	Retreat at Turnberry Park	2
26	Sharon Meadows Park	7

27	Stockbridge Park	1
28	Stoneridge Park	1
29	Three Creeks Park	2
30	Topiary Garden	2
31	Tuttle Park	6
32	Whetstone Park	12
33	Williams Creek Park	2
34	Woodward Nature Preserve	2
35	Worthington Hills Park	6