
No Mow May Alternatives

Background

- National campaign advocated by Bee City USA
- Greatest impact was increased awareness about pollinators
- Brookings implemented the ordinance 2 years ago
- Drawbacks include:
 - Public disapproval (some)
 - Limited benefits for pollinators when lawns are turfgrass
 - Potential for more weeds



**Brookings Sustainability Council's
current recommendation is to
discontinue No Mow May.**

Sustainability Council Recommendation

Alternative: Support the upcoming resolution to become a Bee City, USA

- Collaboration between Parks, Rec & Forestry Department and the Sustainability Council



Commitments:

- Establish a committee to advocate for pollinators
 - Create and enhance pollinator habitat by increasing native plants and providing nesting sites
 - Reduce the use of pesticides
 - Host pollinator awareness events
 - Publicly acknowledge Bee City USA affiliation with signs and online presence
 - Pay an initial application fee and annual renewal fee.
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Sustainability Council Recommendation

Current Practices:

- City Now Mow areas
 - Pollinator plantings—Sexauer Park, Dakota Nature Park, McClellans Park, Pioneer Park, Brookings Prairie, fire station
 - Stormwater Incentive Program for native plants
 - Ladybugs for pest control
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Potential Practices:

- Tabling at Farmers Market, Insect Festival
- Programs to support or incentivize native plants in landscaping-residential and commercial
- Permit for native/pollinator plants in yards
- Bioblitz—community science activity



Questions?
