

STATE OF WISCONSIN : MILWAUKEE COUNTY : VILLAGE OF HALES CORNERS

***** NEWS RELEASE *****

HALES CORNERS BECOMES 14th BEE CITY USA

On August 10, 2015, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution 15-47 designating the Village of Hales Corners as a Bee City USA®. This completed the efforts of the Environmental Committee to accomplish certification. The resolution designates the Environmental Committee the facilitating committee for Hales Corners' efforts to promote pollinator friendliness.

Bee City USA is a nonprofit national organization which encourages municipal leaders to celebrate and raise awareness of the contribution bees and other pollinators make to our world by endorsing and creating sustainable habitats for pollinators.

Bee City USA founder and director, Phyllis Stiles, said, "The program aspires to make people more PC ("pollinator conscious," that is). If lots of individuals and communities begin planting native, pesticide-free flowering trees, shrubs and perennials, it will create large-scale change for thousands of species of pollinators at risk—including honeybees we all depend on for our food production. How each community celebrates pollinators is up to them, but we especially encourage educational programs for children, like school gardens. When a child falls in love with pollinators, they are friends for life."

Delene Hanson, Chair of the Environmental Committee, said, "Hales Corners is an ideal candidate for certification because the Village's has a long history of gardens and pollinators are needed to keep them thriving for years to come".

A designated Bee City USA is expected to annually celebrate being a Bee City USA community with a proclamation and public awareness activities; publicly acknowledge commitment to the program through signage and web links; and annually report activities to Bee City USA to renew the certification.

The Environmental Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month at Village Hall and invites all residents of Hales Corners to offer their ideas for pollinator-friendly initiatives. The more people and organizations involved, the sooner pollinator declines will be reversed.

For more information about the Bee City USA organization visit www.beecityusa.org or email Director Phyllis Stiles at beecityusa@gmail.com. For more information about the Hales Corners Bee City USA program, contact Michael J. Martin, Director of Public Works at (414) 529-6165 or mjmartin@halescorners.org or visit the Village's website www.halescorners.org.

Dated this 8th day of September, 2015.

Michael F. Weber
Village Administrator

CNI – Hales Corners NOW
Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel
Post