



PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2021

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Manitou Springs Celebrates Earth Day by Showcasing Its Sustainability Efforts

MANITOU SPRINGS CO – In 2019 the City of Manitou Springs passed a [Tree Planting Resolution](#), and then in 2020, acquired Tree City USA status. Since the passage of this resolution, the City of Manitou Springs, the Manitou Springs Climate Action Work Group, and many volunteers planted 150 trees in our many parks, the Crystal Valley Cemetery, and other public spaces. We initially planted saplings, but to provide a more immediate canopy, have begun planting larger trees.

Future plans are to begin planting trees in the Urban Renewal Authority's district and a tree planting near the Canon Avenue parking lot for a late celebration of Arbor Day (May 1st at 9:00 AM).

In addition to tree planting, the Manitou Pollinators have made great progress in creating pollinator friendly landscapes around the City. In partnership with the Manitou Springs School District, they received a Manitou Springs Arts Cultural and Heritage Board Grant to create pollinator friendly art that will be placed on the 66 streetlight banners on Manitou Avenue.

The Manitou Springs School District is a Pollinator District Partner with the Manitou Pollinators and the Butterfly Pavilion. Pollinator District Partners need to demonstrate their commitment to becoming a Pollinator District by raising awareness and by educating about our pollinators. It takes a community to become a Pollinator District, and the MACH grant was the result of several letters of support from Pollinator District Partners.

Pikes Peak Permaculture also continues to make a great impact in Manitou Springs, as they have done for the past 19 years. Currently, they are continuing their second year of “plant a family”: a Forest Garden Project in partnership with the Climate Action Work Group to create a supportive ecosystem in our suburban areas. Pikes Peak Permaculture will soon host a 2021 Design Certification Course in September, but in the meantime, they are providing a series of classes regarding rainwater harvesting, urban orchard care, and much more!



Some City initiatives to look out for in the future are the hydroelectric energy that will soon be created at our Water Treatment Plant, a program providing free water efficient showerheads to our community, and more mobility efforts to reduce cruising and congestion in our City. In addition, the City is also providing free leak detection tablets to allow our residents to easily tell whether their toilet is leaking.

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