

PRESS RELEASE

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Grapevine Becomes a Certified Bee City USA Affiliate

GRAPEVINE, Texas – May 5, 2020 – Grapevine's City Council unanimously voted on May 5, 2020 to become a <u>Bee City USA</u>, joining many other cities and campuses across the country united in improving their landscapes for pollinators. The Council's action is the culmination of months of effort by <u>Keep Grapevine Beautiful</u> and <u>Grapevine Parks and Recreation Department</u> to accomplish this certification.

<u>Bee City USA</u> is an initiative of the <u>Xerces Society</u> for Invertebrate Conservation, a nonprofit organization based in Portland, Oregon, with offices across the country. Bee City USA's mission is to galvanize communities to sustain pollinators by providing them with healthy habitat, rich in a variety of native plants and free of insecticides. Pollinators like bumble



bees, sweat bees, mason bees, honey bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies, hummingbirds, and many others are responsible for the reproduction of almost ninety percent of the world's flowering plant species and one in every three bites of food we consume.



The City of Grapevine has designated the Keep Grapevine Beautiful Board the facilitating committee for Grapevine's efforts to engage the community in promoting conservation. The Board meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at The REC of Grapevine (as COVID-19 restrictions allow). All residents of Grapevine are invited 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 Grapevine's Bee City USA program, contact Kathy Nelson at 817.410.3394 or knelson@grapevinetexas.gov. For information about simple ways to help pollinators, visit Xerces.org.