

TINS Truckee Bee City Proposal



Overview

Through approval by the Town of Truckee, the [Tahoe Institute for Natural Science](#) (TINS) proposes to lead the designation of Truckee, CA as an official Bee City. TINS will coordinate and implement all required actions, including planning, organization, and ongoing program management, and will secure funding to support these efforts.

Summarized Expectations

- Make Truckee a Bee City
- Send in Proposal to Jen by **May 1, 2026** and Present to Council **May 12, 2026**
- Adhere to Bee City requirements via 8 steps (see below)
- Form a Bee City Committee with Community Members, Schools, Scientists and one Town/City Council Member
 - Town staff time is 10 hours/year
- TINS underwrite costs for plantings, education, signage, outreach events, and plantings within city limits
- TINS is to create all agendas, documents, and proposals via staff time

Bee City Requirements and TINS's Role

1. Establish a standing Bee City USA committee to advocate for pollinators.

TINS can complete the application and serve as the lead nonprofit organization responsible for organizing and leading meetings, as well as setting agendas. TINS can act as chair and recruit local biologists and educators to form a well-rounded committee. We would need participation from a Town staff member, who could serve primarily as a liaison. This role should not exceed 10 hours/year. TINS would ensure meetings are summarized and plans are clearly communicated so Town member's time is efficiently used.

2. Create and enhance pollinator habitat on public and private land.

TINS plans to expand and create pollinator gardens throughout Truckee, beginning with local public schools by incorporating pollinator-focused curriculum and garden maintenance. Additional habitat could be developed throughout the town, in alignment with local ordinances and with approval from the Town of Truckee. Later on, we intend to expand projects in coordination with Truckee Donner Land Trust. TINS would take responsibility for writing grants to support pollinator education and habitat expansion.

TINS Truckee Bee City Proposal



3. Reduce the use of pesticides/native plant awareness.

TINS can create and expand upon the [Town's native plant list](#) that supports local pollinators and share it with the public via the [TINS website](#). We can also partner with local nurseries, such as [Villager Nursery](#), to distribute this list and offer these plants for purchase locally, ensuring community members have the resources needed to make pollinator-friendly choices.

4. Incorporate pollinator-conscious practices into city policies and plans.

This effort would come in later phases and is not expected to be a priority. Instead, the focus will be on advancing other Bee City USA expectations. If needed, TINS can support incorporating Bee City USA commitments into the Town's comprehensive plan, including identifying locations for pollinator-friendly plantings and other conservation measures, however our other goal is to limit the Town's staff time and focus on other initiatives.

5. Host pollinator awareness events.

TINS can host events and also bring in local experts to give talks on pollinators and bees, increasing community awareness and sharing current research and best practices. We already do this, let's not reinvent the wheel.

6. Publicly acknowledge Bee City USA affiliation with signs and an online presence.

TINS could promote Truckee as a Bee City on its website, including hosting the native plant and supplier lists. We can work with the Town to document and publicize the designation regionally, and include signage costs within grant proposals.

7. Pay an initial application fee and annual renewal fee.

TINS can cover the application and renewal costs, which we expect to be less than \$200.

8. Annually apply for renewal and report on the previous year's activities.

TINS can take the lead on completing annual renewals and preparing reports documenting the year's activities.

For more information on Bee City USA Requirements, view the link below:

<https://beecityusa.org/bee-city-usa-commitments/>