

Las Vegas HPHC Shine City Project at Bruce and Owens Native Pollinator Habitat

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February 12, 2022



On February 12, 2022, Shine City Project got down and dirty with Get Outdoors Nevada! Get Outdoors Nevada is a non-profit organization dedicated to connecting people of all backgrounds and ages to Nevada's diverse outdoor places. With service projects every week, Get Outdoors Nevada encourages everyone to discover, experience, and connect to our state's public lands, urban trails, and community parks.

On this Saturday morning, our Shine City Project volunteers found ourselves at the corner of Bruce and Owens at a with Get Outdoors Nevada! This habitat was started by Get Outdoors Nevada in order to provide pollinators such as hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies an opportunity for food and shelter. This habitat has a number of native flowers including Firecracker Penstemon, Apricot Globemallow, Desert Marigold, and others.

After receiving instructions and guidance from Get Outdoors Nevada staff, our volunteers helped to remove cages from plants that have outgrown their cages, as well as remove weeds and grasses that have overtaken the native plants. We had to be careful removing the wire cages as there was a possibility of damaging the plant. For a lot of the plants, there were stems or leaves that have protruded out of the wire cages. If we weren't careful, these stems and leaves could tear away from the plant. Once cages have been

removed, stakes also had to be pulled out of the ground, as well as any weeds or grasses.

For this service project, we had thirteen total volunteers representing Shine City Project! For two of our volunteers, it was their first time joining us! Overall, it was rewarding being able to work in the native pollinator habitat, and it was equally satisfying being able to pull out stakes, weeds, and grasses after a short tussle. With all that we did, we still had to show some care and love for the plants as we didn't want to harm them. Time and patience were key to our success. By the end of the service project, our group had a great time being at the native pollinator habitat and helping out Get Outdoors Nevada!

