

Bee Campus USA - University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Report on 2023



Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Please describe pollinator habitat creation or enhancement projects in your community in 2024, and whether your committee hosted them or not.

In the past our campus has been recognized by several conversational organizations. We make sure that the projects that are held on campus play a vital role in ensuring positive enhancement in our pollinator habitats.

How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance in 2024?

26

How many people (staff, volunteers, students, partners, etc.) helped with those projects?

48

How many projects benefit monarchs, milkweed, or nectar plantings?

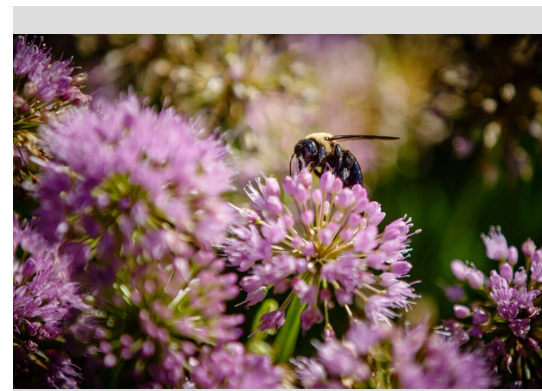
26

How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

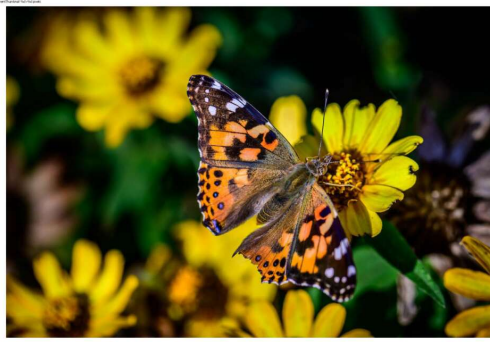
2300

Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance last year with pollinator benefit in mind.

- Flower garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Rain garden/bioswale



Bee Shot Photographer: Benjamin Travis Tate



Butterfly Shot Photographer: Benjamin Travis Tate



Bee Shot Photographer: Benjamin Travis Tate

Education & Outreach

Please describe pollinator conservation events or outreach activities in your community in 2024, indicating whether your committee hosted them or not.

Our beekeeping club has hosted 32 events so far for the year of 2023. This included outdoor pollinator walks, active habitat creation work, and informational presentations on pollinator conservation. Other events included student and community outreach events such as Green Quad Day, or meetings like the Student Sustainability Leadership Council. These gatherings were not hosted by the Bee Campus committee, but by registered student organizations.

How many pollinator-related events or outreach activities did you host or help with in 2024 (in total)?

3

How many people attended those events (in total)?

400

Number of permanent interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed to date?

4

Number of temporary interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed in 2024?

3



Red Oak Rain Garden Halloween Photo. Photographer: Benjamin Travis Tate

Curriculum, Continuing Education, & Service Learning

Please describe the curriculum your campus engaged in 2024, indicating whether it was part of a for-credit course or continuing education.

The importance of supporting pollinators, reducing harmful chemical usage and increasing the use of native plants is of important value to us. In reflection to educating the importance of supporting pollinators, the university has a wide variety of courses surrounding pollinators. The courses we provide are in the department of Entomology and are credited classes for continuing education.

How many of your for-credit courses included pollinator-related information in 2024?

6

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

468

How many of your continuing education courses included pollinator-related information in 2024?

2

How many participants attended those continuing education courses?

45

How many service-learning projects did your campus host and/or support to enhance pollinator habitat on- and off- campus?

7

How many students participated in service-learning projects in 2024 to enhance pollinator habitat on or off-campus?

61

Please describe the service-learning projects your students were engaged in 2024, indicating which, if any, were associated with a course.

Although the services learning projects on campus were not associated with coursework it played a key role in our rain garden care and mini lessons. These lessons were held by campus experts who were able to provide valuable educational experiences to students and volunteers that shared their time to ensure that these gardens were maintained properly.

Policies & Practices

Please describe actions taken to make pest management more pollinator-friendly.

Actions taken to make pest management more pollinator friendly at the university insist on rigorous training and education. Uses only the safest and lowest toxicity products for effective control of pests and limit the use of herbicides that contain neonicotinoids.

In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?

Yes, we hold events to engage the community in awareness and the responsibility of naturalizing and sustaining our waterways.

Did your committee participate in any continuing education on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management planning?

We do hold educational integrated pest management programs in relation to continuing education, we have courses

that inform the reduction of harmful chemical usage.

Please check actions you have taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly.

- Implemented or maintained a written IPM plan
 - Only use pesticides as a last resort within the IPM plan
 - Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
-

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<https://fs.illinois.edu/bees-and-pollinators/>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://uofi.app.box.com/s/8gzo54tmc1p9xl1o58f8togdkhsn562v/file/468926797550>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/project/bee-campus-usa>
bee-campus@lists.illinois.edu