

Bee Campus USA

Commitments

Thinking globally and acting locally, Bee Campus USA provides a framework for campus communities to work together to conserve native pollinators by providing them with healthy habitat, rich in a variety of native plants, and free to nearly free of pesticides.

Bee Campus USA affiliates make commitments to conserve native pollinators. Students, faculty, administrators, and staff work together to carry out these commitments and make their campus a better place for pollinators.

Bee Campus USA Commitments

Establish a standing Bee Campus USA committee to advocate for pollinators.

Committees generally include a mix of students, faculty, and staff. We require that at least one member of the grounds or landscaping department serve on the committee to facilitate communication between the committee and those involved in campus landscaping. The committee should have a chair or multiple co-chairs and meet on a regular schedule. To maintain continuity a student may not serve as the sole chair, however a student is welcome to serve as a co-chair along with a faculty or staff member.

Create and enhance pollinator habitat on campus by increasing the abundance of native plants and providing nest sites.

Affiliates commit to creating or enhancing pollinator habitat on campus each year. To assist with habitat creation and provide guidance for the campus, affiliates create a native plant list and native plant supplier list.. There's no need to create these materials before applying, but they should be complete by your first renewal. Guidance and examples will be provided to assist in developing each of these resources.

Reduce the use of pesticides.

Create and adopt an integrated pest management (IPM) plan designed to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and expand the use of non-chemical pest management methods. Like the native plant list and native plant supplier list, the IPM plan should be developed over the first few years of affiliation.

Offer service-learning projects to enhance pollinator habitat.

Affiliates commit to offer service-learning projects related to enhancing pollinator habitat each year.



Display signage focused on pollinator conservation.

Affiliates commit to displaying signage focused on pollinator conservation. These signs can either be permanent (such as educational signage near pollinator-friendly habitat) or temporary signage (including flyers in cafeterias, etc.). Xerces provides affiliates with custom logos that they are welcome to have printed as signs and display on campus.

Offer courses or continuing education opportunities that incorporate pollinator conservation.

Affiliates commit to incorporate information about native pollinators and pollinator conservation into courses or continuing education opportunities.

Maintain an online presence for your Bee Campus USA activities.

Affiliates commit to maintain an online presence where they share information about their activities as well as their native plant list, native plant supplier list, and integrated pest management plan. This could be a page on the university or college's website or a separate site. Many affiliates also use social media to share information about their activities.

Pay an initial application fee and annual renewal fee.

To sustain the Bee City USA and Bee Campus uSA program we require an application fee and annual renewal fees. These fees are based on student enrollment. Visit the application page to learn more about fees. Renewal fees are the same amount as the application fee.

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

Affiliates commit to submitting a renewal application once they have been certified for a full calendar year. Renewals allow Xerces to monitor affiliate activities and share the great work they're doing.

Xerces staff are available to support affiliates and provide resources to help them complete these commitments.

AASHE STARS Grounds Certification Exemplary Practice Credit

The Bee Campus USA certification earns two Grounds Certification exemplary practice credit points in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)'s Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ (STARS) system. The STARS system is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance.

Visit www.beecityusa.org to learn more.

