

Bee Campus USA - Portland State University

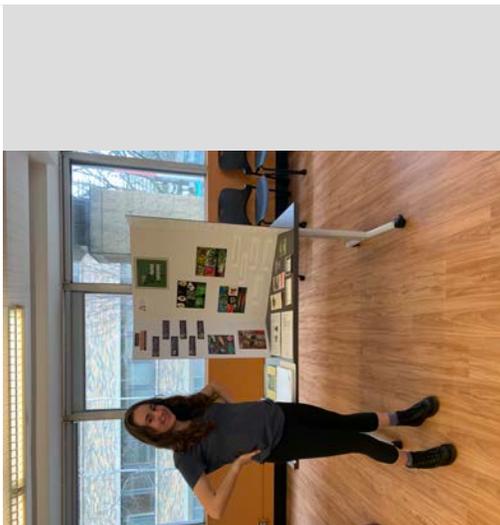
Report on 2020

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

In 2020, The Students of the Student Sustainability worked to convert many of the spaces that fill our community orchard into food producing, wild-native and pollinator meadow habitats. This includes turning the area surrounding our apiary into pollinator meadow using native grass and flower mixes, receiving grants to plant native plants throughout the space and choosing herb and vegetables to promote pollinator health. These projects took place from January - March before transitioning to remote operations.

Education & Outreach

The Student Sustainability Center hosted our annual Beekeeping 101 Workshop, with educated beekeeping professionals in the region come to speak and workshop style activities to get students involved in beekeeping. The event was transitioned last minute to remote operations in the face of the pandemic, yet still had successful attendance. In addition to this event, the SSC hosted 3 service events to engage students in the gardens, pollinator meadows and seed sorting.



Gianna, SSC Student educating students about native plants at the Seed Sort Event.



Students organizing seeds at our seed sort event.



Tabling information about our campus gardens and apiary at our seed sort event.



Courses & Continuing Education

At least two PSU classes are covering pollinator-related topics: Urban Ecology and Invertebrate Zoology. The Invertebrate Zoology professor supported a graduate student as she continued sampling the diversity of native bees within the Orchard for her research. This baseline may allow us to measure changes in biodiversity in future years. A professor on campus, Susan Masta (link: <http://web.pdx.edu/~smasta/>), curates an invertebrate museum where her and her students catalog both native and non-native pollinators. In addition, Dr. Masta oversees research by graduate students that specifically deals with native pollinators. From 2018-2020 a graduate student, Stefanie Steele, has continued to compile data to provide a base genus-species list of pollinators in Multnomah County, where PSU is located. This data contributed to the Oregon Bee Atlas (link:), a statewide initiative to document Oregon's native bee species.

Service-Learning

indicating which, if any, were associated with a course. A few service-learning events/ projects took place before transitioning to remote learning due to COVID 19. In February of 2020, a seed sort event was organized, where students came and learned about planting, seeds and growing natives and vegetables in the area while helping our organization to organize our seed donations. We also hosted two dig in service events where students came and helped in the gardens for an hour and a half, both in february. One event was open to all psu students and the other was specifically for the Intensive English Learning Program, a group of exchange students who visited for two weeks from Japan. In addition to these events, the beekeeping and garden task forces continued to meet and engaged 20 - 25 students weekly in garden and beekeeping related service projects. Additionally, the garden task force volunteers participated in Village Building Convergence and went to weekly community meetings to develop projects and learn about permaculture.

Educational Signage

We continue to work toward the creation of educational signage across campus, however many of our efforts have been in planning long-term signage at and near our apiary. The SSC students are currently creating a long term vision for our orchard that will inform signage. Our orchard now has a welcome sign that advertises our apiary and encourages student involvement. We have also added a framed copy of our Bee Campus certification and a pint of PSU honey in our office, which receives many visitors.

Policies & Practices

The student gardens of the student sustainability center are committed to not using any chemical, non-organic pesticides.



Our campus at large takes measures to reduce pesticide use and avoid it in areas where possible.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

[Learn More](#)

