

# Bee Campus USA - Montana State University

Report on 2021

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## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Two new habitats created – American Indian Hall features primarily native plants, Romney Hall south landscape features pollinators in a roof top garden setting. Both these landscapes also feature meadow grass areas. Continued edible/pollinator plantings by our Food Service locations (SUB, Miller, Rendezvous) reinforcing earth to table connection and the role of pollinators in food production. Continued incorporation of edibles in landscape decorative planters and select beds across campus

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## Education & Outreach

The Pollinator Symposium featured the film The Pollinators, Q&A with local bee experts and 4 research based pollinator talks – 3 from MSU PhD students. Two landscape tours were offered through All-Staff Council and featured landscape attributes focusing on Best Management Practices including a “manage to the ecosystem” approach, reduced pesticide use, and diversity of landscape plant palette in re: landscape resilience. A campus tour for a landscape management class focused on Best Management Practices including reduced pesticide use and weed presence as a symptom of underlying plant care issues (compaction, low nutrient, water stress).

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## Courses & Continuing Education

This is not my area of expertise so I do not have detail. I can say with confidence that we continue to be solid in this aspect.

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## Service-Learning

My departments (operations/Landscape and Grounds/storm water) have several service learning opportunities every year. These are tangentially but not directly pollinator related but DO improve the overall natural environment of campus

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## Educational Signage

We installed two permanent signs at the American Indian Hall project. One talks about natural landscape practices as they



relate to Indigenous Peoples culture and another talks about Traditional Diets in the Vegetable/Herb garden that is co-managed by our Native American and Culinary programs.

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## Policies & Practices

Some guiding principles for our approach to landscape management — landscapes are a holistic vegetative system. This perspective preserves the benefits directly attributable to trees while respecting and enhancing whole system benefits such as wildlife habitat, total system biomass, and landscape succession and other natural processes and As a rule we do not use pesticides on any edible landscape plants on campus nor do we use them in our stormwater detention features. While we have some high expectation turf areas (recruit/retain mission) we have many turf areas of campus where weed presence is tolerated. Not coincidentally we point to our Bee Campus rating as a reason for this approach.

### **Integrated Pest Management Plan:**

### **Recommended Native Plant List:**

### **Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:**

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## Learn More

<https://www.montana.edu/pollinators/>  
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