

# Bee Campus USA - Owens Community College Findlay

Report on 2021



## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Our Owens community garden continued during 2021 with some enhancements of flower boxes for weed prevention. Our campus also grew pumpkins and squash this year along with several varieties of tomatoes and peppers. Milkweed seeds were also spread around the Owens campus to hopefully propagate for 2022. Addition of milkweed on campus was a goal established for this year.





Owens Community Garden - Early Summer 2021

## Education & Outreach

Unfortunately in year #2 of the coronavirus pandemic many courses at our college remained online, therefore, there were few campus events that provided for outreach. The most exciting addition to our pollinator conservation endeavor were funds through the Owens Foundation to purchase a honey extractor and the various supplies that were needed for the campus to extract and bottle our own honey. Extra seasonal honey will be distributed through our community and donations will be collected to further fund and enhance our bee campus. Additionally, milkweed seed were naturally



spread around our natural wildflower areas around campus to hopefully, propagate more pollinator friendly species for pollinating insects such as bees and monarch butterflies. During a typical year, much of our community pollinator conservation involvement centers around the Fall Fest event that is on campus every year during the fall semester. Students have the opportunity to extract honey from the honey supers and have close contact with the structure of the hives themselves and learn the hierarchical structure of honeybees. In the early Spring, Spring Fling occurs and the Bee Campus USA committee educates the college community about the importance of pollination and attendees are able to take home various seeds from the college's seed bank. In the summer months, promotion of the community garden occurs, which is quite plentiful, thanks to our neighboring bee hives. A variety of tomatoes, peppers, zucchini and other various fruits, vegetables and herbs are offered in the atrium and are available at the campus' food party to faculty, staff and students on campus. Our staff on campus fortunately did continue maintaining our five beehives and the community garden.



Introducing new bees - 2021



Newest outreach tool - Honey extractor purchased in 2021

## Courses & Continuing Education

Due to Covid, continuing education courses that pertain to our Bee campus USA and pollinating friendly practices were not offered. Our faculty and staff, however, continuously reach out to students to educate about our beehives and our pollinator friendly campus. We hope to offer continuing education courses in the future.



## Service-Learning

Generally, our service learning involves small groups of students. Students, often help us maintain the garden or help with the beehives. As students start to come back to campus for in-person courses, we hope to increase the amount of learning outreach to our students.



Introducing new queen - Spring 2021

## Educational Signage

"Growing Garden and Bee Buzz" bulletin board is updated monthly. Signage around our campus are located at the entrances and have remained.





Garden and Hive signage next to beehives



Bulletin board on campus for garden and bee news

## Policies & Practices

On the Findlay campus at Owens Community College we strictly do not use any pesticides. Our campus does not spray our dandelions or any other weeds. In our community garden, landscape cloth and raised gardens are used to keep any weeds at bay and volunteers pull weeds that need to be taken care of in order to maintain the garden. It is our campus' philosophy to maintain as much natural habitat as possible and make a great effort to maintain aesthetics of our campus through means other than pesticides.

**Integrated Pest Management Plan:** [OPHI Pollinator Job Sheet Standard Establishment Owens Community College.pdf](#)

**Recommended Native Plant List:**

**Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:**

Learn More

