

Bee Campus USA - Blue Ridge Community College

Report on 2022



Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

New vegetable and herb garden areas were put in on the BRCC campus with the help of students and staff. Milkweed plants were started from seed collected on campus and plants were planted out in campus beds. New flower beds were created around the existing campus greenhouse with a focus on natives and management of those beds to enhance pollinator survival. Begam talks with Conserving Carolina to do a grant based ecosystem restoration project on meadow, woodland, and waterway areas on campus!

How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance last year?

4

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

200

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

- Flower garden
- Vegetable garden
- Orchard
- Meadow
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)

Education & Outreach

Native Plant ID & Pollinator Support: ID class open to general public with a focus on native plants that host native pollinators
Pollinator Beds Upkeep: Internal event hosted by committee to upkeep the pollinator beds on the BRCC campus.

How many pollinator-related events did your affiliate host or help with last year (in total)?

2

How many people attended those events (in total)?

25

Courses & Continuing Education

Several of the horticulture program curriculum classes specifically address IPM and pollinator conservation. A Native Plant ID & Pollinator Conservation class was offered as a CE class.

How many of your for-credit courses included pollinator-related information last year?

10

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

80

How many of your continuing education courses included pollinator-related information last year?

1

How many participants attended those courses?

10

Service-Learning

We did upkeep and management of pollinator beds on campus with a few horticulture students participating.

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

1

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

7

Educational Signage

No new signs have been installed in the last year.

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

Policies & Practices

We continue to work directly with our grounds department to maintain our existing IPM plan and reduce pesticide usage wherever possible. Pesticides are not used in the orchards, gardens, and beds around the greenhouse and horticulture areas; which is where our campus beehives will be located. Pesticides are also not used in any pollinator specific beds on campus.

What actions have you taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly?

- Implemented or maintained a written IPM plan
- Avoided use of pesticides in public sites containing designated pollinator habitat or other sensitive features (except when targeted use is deemed the best option for invasive or noxious weed, insect or disease management)
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids
- Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants that were not treated with neonicotinoids

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

Yes, we are currently working with Conserving Carolina to rehabilitate and create habitat on a large area on campus. Once this is done pesticide usage will also be restricted in this area. We are also working with the horticulture program to plant more native trees, shrubs, and perennials grown right here on campus.

Please describe actions by your affiliate to attend training on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management and/or to review IPM plans and programs considered of high quality by Bee City USA?

All grounds team members are taking a pest management class with a focus on IPM via the horticulture program on campus.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [BRCC-Integrated-Pest-Management-Plan_a.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://ncwildflower.org/recommended-native-species/>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Native-Plant-Nurseries-in-North-Carolina_a.pdf](#)

Learn More

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