

Bee Campus USA - California State University Sacramento

Report on 2022

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Our campus Grounds and Maintenance department has been working with the office of Sustainability to convert some areas on campus to more pollinator-friendly bio-spaces. Additionally, they help manage the campus garden without the use of pesticide or herbicides. Campus grounds have 25 separate low-impact development sites as well as newer campus buildings that have included bio-swales as part of their construction and to abide by CA building code. All of these are also a part of Sac state's commitment to be a pollinator friendly campus. The addition of 100 pollinator-friendly trees were planted during the annual Arbor Day event. An additional 30 trees were planted to the front esplanade at the entrance to campus.

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

6

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

1155

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

226

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
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Herb garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Rain garden/bioswale

- School garden



Tschannen Science Complex has an integrated living roof that provides thermal barriers for the building as well as being home to a refuge for pollinators and a native plant garden

Education & Outreach

Our team offers community tours of our campus garden and compost facility both of which are operated with no pesticides and organic practices. Both of the sites have beehives and native, perennial flowering plants.

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

How many people attended those events (in total)?

367



Teaching educators on the importance of pollinators



Observe & learn in an outdoor classroom space!

Courses & Continuing Education

There are five different "for-credit" courses including Agroecology (3 credits), Introduction to Environmental Science (3 credits), Food Production & Sustainability (4 credits), Urban Agriculture and Aquaponics (3 credits). Much of the course curriculum included hands-on practice and experience working in the campus garden, which involves rotational, seasonal crop planting, composting, mulching, & companion planting. For the continuing education courses, we hosted a summer teaching program that included 110 educators that are employed through the Sac Unified School District. The Office of Sustainability also hosted an AASHE-sponsored course (A Transition to Organic, Ecological Landscapes) to deliver framework and implementation of integrated pest management plans.

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

5

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

145

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

2



A Transition to Organic, Ecological Landscapes for Campuses



AASHE-sponsored course

Service-Learning

The campus works closely with the campus Grounds department to operate and maintain the composting program. As a result, Sac State generates excess compost that is then delivered to community partners such as local, Sac Unified schools that have campus gardens. Additionally, the Office of Sustainability maintains an apiculture program to support pollinator education and beehive maintenance. Alternative Spring Break is a program that Sac State students participated in to help support and build community gardens in disadvantaged communities. Additional volunteers worked at Soil Born Farms to

assist with spring planting preparation.

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

20

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

65



Student volunteers support outside communities



Arbor Day Tree planting event added 100 new trees to campus grounds



Soil Born students volunteer at Soil Born Farms

Educational Signage

Two separate, permanent support outside signs were installed after the installation of new pollinator-friendly foliage. We do not install any temporary signage on our campus.

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

35

Number of temporary interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed last year?



Policies & Practices

Our campus Sustainability Steering Committee is in the midst of updating and expanding the campus IPM plan. The Grounds Department also hired a garden specialist with a Master gardening background to help develop better techniques for managing the 300-acre 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)
- Implemented non-chemical pest prevention and management methods on city or campus grounds
- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds 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?

As a key process initiative of our IPM plan, we have addressed the application of conventional pest control methods as a practice to be discontinued. This will be phased in as we also begin to convert more of the lawn-covered parts of campus to more native plant gardens with wood mulch/chips from downed campus trees and branches.

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?

The majority of the Sustainability Steering Committee was able to attend an AASHEE-led course on Integrated Pest Management Planning. We also engage the campus garden specialist and leverage her network for developing best practice framework for our own plan.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [Sac State IPM .pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [Sac State Pollinator Habitat Plan.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

Learn More

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New signage 2022

