Bee Campus USA - Portland Community College

Report on 2022

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

We completed 5 pollinator health and habitat projects in 2022 for a total of over 15,000 square feet at various PCC locations. In the Cascade Learning garden, yarrow, mint, sunchokes, bees friend was planted in late fall/early winter. At Rock Creek Campus, there was a small meadowscaping project (20'x40') on the west end of Washington County Master Gardeners' space as well as pollinator planting in Parking lot A to increase pollinator-friendly habitat. As a part of the College's Bond-funded projects, in 2022 our Planning and Capital Construction team completed two planting projects. The first project was at the Rock Creek Campus Dealer Services Technology Building by adding 11,809 square feet of pollinator-friendly plants. At Sylvania campus, an additional 2483 square feet of pollinator-friendly plants was added at the Sylvania Falls.

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

5

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

15000

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

30

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
- Meadow
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Roadside/rights of way planting
- School garden

Before photo of our pollinator planting in parking lot A at Rock Creek Campus.

After photo of our pollinator planting in parking lot A at Rock Creek Campus.

Cascade Learning garden's new pollinator-friendly planting.

Education & Outreach

We had a great year of education and outreach with twelve different events including nine PCC-hosted events. During the month of April in honor of Earth Week we hosted a variety of pollinator-specific events. The four main libraries displayed materials on pollinators that are so important for our planet including bees, butterflies, bats and beneficial insects. On display were books, handouts, colorful visuals and a wide variety of free resources and educational materials for faculty, staff and students. We hosted Pollinator Art-A-Palooza, a virtual exhibition of student artwork themed around pollinators that was uploaded online during Earth Week and now lives on our webpage. There were 16 artists and over 320 online visitors throughout the year. All of the gardens hosted pollinator-friendly plant start giveaways, with a total of about 100 starts given away across all four campuses. We also continued our virtual efforts with an Earth Week Bingo Challenge which highlighted our Bee Campus efforts and had ways for folks to learn more about the importance of pollinators. For Pollinator Week, we hosted a pollinator gardening event at Cascade Campus on Thursday, June 23rd. We gave away packets of pollinator flower seeds, had a pollinator education display set up, and gave tours of the learning garden with a specific focus on pollinator habitat. Since this was in between terms, the majority of participation was from staff and faculty. We also hosted a virtual film screening followed by a discussion of Garden of a Thousand Bees in honor of Pollinator Week with 11 attendees. As a part of our partnership with Washington County Master Gardener Association (WCMGA), they hosted many events at our Rock Creek Campus with about 290 attendees throughout the year. In May, they hosted “Meet the Mason Bees…and some of their closest friends” a family friendly event where attendees could learn about the Blue Orchard Mason Bees and other Oregon native bees – their life cycle, habitat needs and more with live displays and hands-on activities. In July, “WCMGA Education Garden Open Garden – Invertebrates, Wildlife & Us!” Visitors of all ages were invited to enjoy the ‘Garden Classrooms’ space with tours, free educational materials, Q&A, self-guided displays, community tablets and hands-on activities, including two activities related to bees Additionally, the college

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featured the apiary and two of our beekeepers in a video produced by the Foundation Office for the Annual Fundraising Gala in April, which highlighted our Bee Campus USA and pollinator-friendly practices among other college spotlights.

How many pollinator-related events did your affiliate host or help with last year (in total)?
12

How many people attended those events (in total)?
750


One example of the Earth Week pollinator library displays.


WCMGA Meet the Bees event with hands-on activities for all ages.

Pollinator Week event promotional graphic.

Courses & Continuing Education

The Rock Creek Campus held six for-credit Landscape and Technology courses throughout the year that included bee-friendly habitat evaluations, maintenance techniques, effects of pesticides and general beekeeping teachings. These courses included Beekeeping, Sustainable Landscaping, Site Evaluation, Plant Establishment and Maintenance, Pesticide, and Ecosystem Based Landscape Practices. In total, these courses had 121 students. Additionally, there were eight non-credit Community Education courses that include information on pollinators or are specific pollinator gardening classes. These courses range from Beginning Backyard Beekeeping, Bee Friendly Gardening, Naturescaping for Pollinators, and Intermediate Backyard Beekeeping. These community education courses had a total of 144 students throughout the year WCMGA also hosted two classes throughout the year. In June, “Bees in Your Garden” – a class for children and adults focused on Oregon native bees. Participants learned how to distinguish between a bee, a wasp, and a fly and explored habitat needs for our native bees. In December, “Mason Bee Cocoon Cleaning” class. This hands-on workshop taught

participants how to extract, clean, and store mason bee cocoons. Each class had about 20 students.

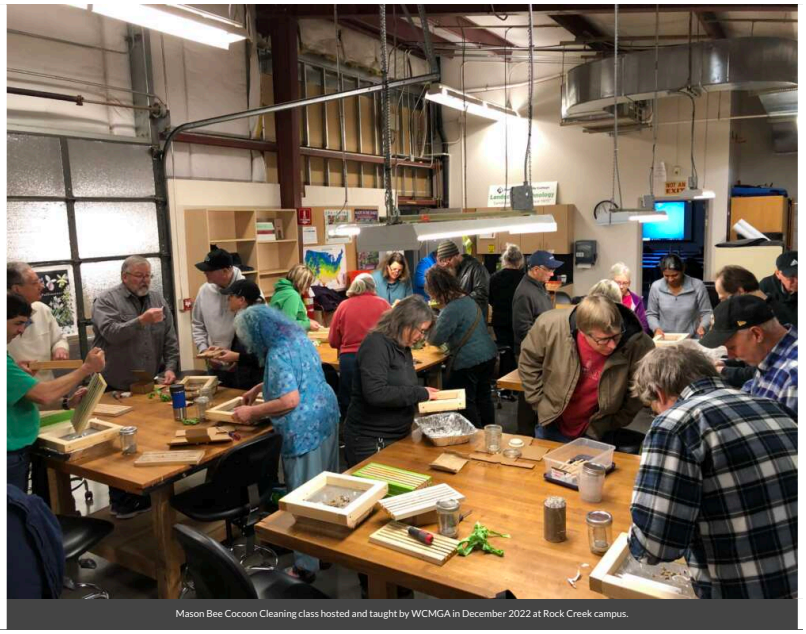
How many of your for-credit courses included pollinator-related information last year?
6

How many students attended those for-credit courses?
121

How many of your continuing education courses included pollinator-related information last year?
10

How many participants attended those courses?
184

Plant Establishment & Maintenance students planting pollinator-friendly starts at Rock Creek.



Mason Bee Cocoon Cleaning class hosted and taught by WCMGA in December 2022 at Rock Creek campus.

Service-Learning

During Earth Week 2022, PCC Sustainability hosted a pollinator planting service event. In preparation, Sustainability and Landscape Technology staff got together in February 2022 to plant 16 flats of pollinator seeds to be ready to plant for the event. Then, in April, 27 students, staff and faculty came together to plan all of the starts. This project added so much light and life to Rock Creek parking lot A and continues to flourish. In 2022, a class of 14 students got together to work on a hive stand project. These stands are placed under the beehives to keep them off the ground and away from other creatures. Skunks will scratch at the hives and entice the bees out and eat them but the hive stands discourages them from raiding.

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With all 14 students, 6 stands were made.

How many service-learning projects did your campus host and/or support to enhance pollinator habitat on and off-campus?
3

How many students participated in service-learning projects last year to enhance pollinator habitat on or off-campus?
41

Students gathered around the hive stands they built at the Rock Creek Apiary.

Getting starts ready in February for the Earth Week planting event.

Educational Signage

In March of 2022, a new Apiary sign was installed at the Rock Creek Apiary. This apiary houses five hives used for our beekeeping class as well as two demonstration hives. The new sign invites visitors to enjoy the space and learn more about our Bee Campus efforts with a handy QR code that goes to our website! The beautiful new sign was designed by Bee Campus committee members and is maintained by Landscape Technology and Sustainability staff. Grounds and Garden staff continue to maintain our educational and informational pollinator friendly signage that is posted across our four main campuses, at all gardens and college centers.

Number of permanent interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed to date?
15

Number of temporary interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed last year?
2

New signage at the Rock Creek Apiary informing visitors of PCC Bee Campus efforts.

Policies & Practices

At the college we maintained our IPM plan in 2022 by continuing to reduce our dependence on pesticides district-wide. To that end, no neonicotinoids were used on the campus grounds and no pesticides were used near any storm water facilities or pollinator friendly areas on college properties. We continue to rely on our Grounds team who perform countless hours of mechanical, hand weeding and chip placement to reduce weeds. Also, we are reducing our use of rodenticides, opting for snap traps where applicable. Each of our five learning gardens are champions in maintaining the college's IPM plan and

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implement their own strategies to further these efforts. Each garden maintains organic practices including hand pulling of weeds, companion planting and no spray pest management efforts to support pollinator health.

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
- Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds
- Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides on city or campus grounds
- 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?
At the college we follow our IPM plan by continuing to reduce our dependence on pesticides district-wide. In addition, Senate Bill 637 incorporated into ORS Chapter 634 requires all school districts to implement integrated pest management in their schools. The college's learning gardens follow even stricter guidelines by only using organic practices, hand pulling and companion planting.

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 Sustainability, Learning Garden staff, Grounds and the Bee Campus USA committee regularly review the IPM Plan and discuss updates or changes as needed.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:
https://www.pcc.edu/facilities-management/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2019/01/integrated-pest-management_Oct_2015.pdf
Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

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Informational sign at the Sylvania campus garden about our district-wide pollinator-friendly landscaping practices.

Learn More

https://www.pcc.edu/sustainability/on-campus/rock-creek/bees/
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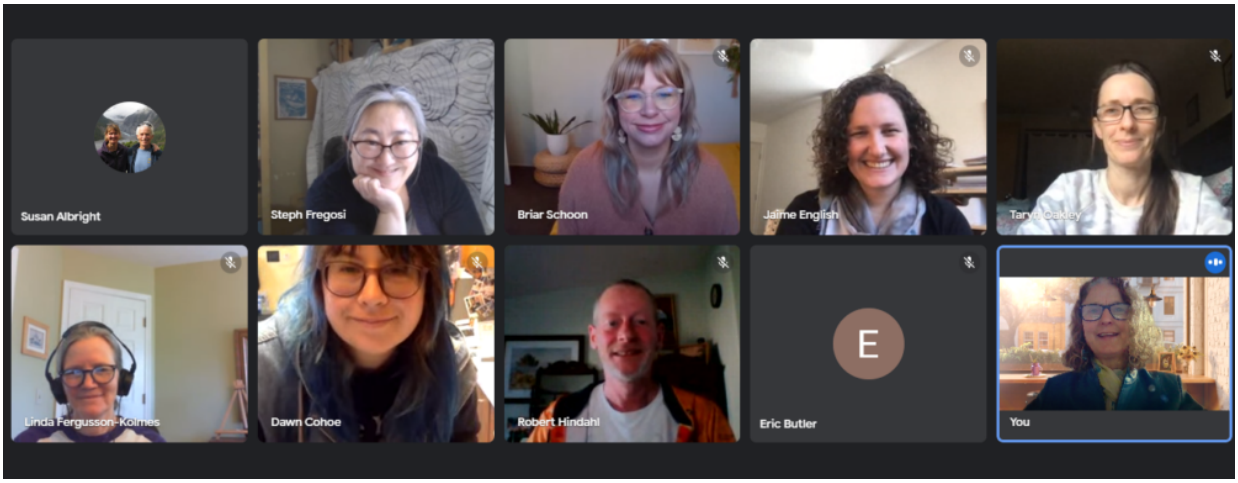
https://www.instagram.com/pcclandscapetechnology/?hl=en



A photo of some of our committee members at a virtual meeting.

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