Bee Campus USA - Southern Oregon University

Report on 2022

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Landscape Dept. (represented on the Committee) overhauled some 3 acres of lawn and converted to drought-tolerant planting. Still in-progress, completion expected Summer 2023. Pollinator habitats also maintained.

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

8

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

100000

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

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
- Meadow
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Herb garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Rain garden/bioswale
- Roadside/rights of way planting

- School garden
- Other

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AN INITIATIVE OF THE XERCES SOCIETY

XERCES SOCIETY
for Invertebrate Conservation

100000 Ft² lawn conversion. Photos of high-efficiency irrigation installation.

Education & Outreach

Earth Day at The Farm April 22, 2022 – This event had up to 1000 people in attendance. One of the highlighted activities was “Pollinator Art Walk and Talks” with two artists whose artwork was installed in the orchard and pollinator gardens at The Farm at SOU. There were 3 walks and talks and 45 people specifically attended the Pollinator Art Walk and Talks. We have also hosted k-12 and pollinator club activities at The Farm at SOU and have a new art exhibition being installed related to pollinators.

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)?

45

Courses & Continuing Education

Pollinators and the systems that support pollinators are included in several courses in the ES program: ES 102(Biological Science), ES 210 (Environmental problems), BI 340 (Into to ecology), ES120, 121, and 122 (Sustainable Food Systems), ES 379, ES 230/408/430 (EcoAdventure), ES 483 (Restoration Ecology), ES 494 A, B and C (Env. Science Capstone). BI 411 (Ethnobotany), BI 438 (Conservation Biology), BI 444 (Field Botany). ES 102 and BI 340 developed labs around pollinators. ES 210 featured regional environmental groups, of which one is the Pollinator Project Rogue Valley (PPRV).

How many of your for-credit courses included pollinator-related information last year?
17

How many students attended those for-credit courses?
350

How many of your continuing education courses included pollinator-related information last year?
3

How many participants attended those courses?

Service-Learning

Students in ES 102 (Intro to Biological Environmental Sciences) helped restore riparian areas burned by the Almeda Fire by planting native grasses and shrubs, which included a large discussion on pollinator habitat. Rogue Valley Pollinator Project currently employs two students as interns. One is funded through Ameriicorps to develop educational materials and coordinate public events, while the other is updating a buzzway map that was started by SOU students 5 years ago. We are also developing further apiary project work at The Farm https://sustainability.sou.edu/sous-apiary-project/

How many service-learning projects did your campus host and/or support to enhance pollinator habitat on and off-campus?
2

How many students participated in service-learning projects last year to enhance pollinator habitat on or off-campus?
18

Educational Signage

Grant/donor interpretive sign and raised hex beds at the farm

Number of permanent interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed to date?
12

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

Policies & Practices

Staff training through Oregon State University Oregon IPM Center. Using basal-tissue injections of targeted insecticides on beetle-damaged conifer tree stands, when the trees are not in flower. This prevents movement of insecticide and eliminates risk of non-target species damage.

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
- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
- Restricted pesticides used to organic pesticides on city or campus grounds
- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds using “Buying Bee-Safe Plants” methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants)
- 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?

In-development long-range Landscape Master Plan will include considerations for pollinator/people/waterway protection. Current practices pose no risks, however language and mapping can be utilized to strengthen protection measures.

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?
Attended OSU Extension Pesticide Recertification Short Courses; multiple speakers focused on pollinator habitat enhancement, IPM development, and best management practices for pollinator-friendly pesticide application. Landscape staff attended online IPM trainings.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:
https://inside.sou.edu/fmp/fmppolicies.html
Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

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