

Bee Campus USA - Washington College

Report on 2022



Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

We worked with a local nonprofit to install bioswales on campus filled with native plants, students planted native trees in an academic courtyard, and students enhanced the Campus Garden with a variety of pollinator friendly plantings.

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

3

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

10890

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

12

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

- Flower garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Rain garden/bioswale
- School garden



A Permacult at the Campus Garden had students adding native flowers and building structures to enhance community access to the space.

Education & Outreach

We hosted a permaculture orientation program, a permaculture internship, co-curricular beekeeping 101 class with an emphasis on pollinator advocacy, a presentation by a professional photographer about native bees, and an Arbor Day event that with community talks and activities relating to pollinators and wildlife.

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

5

How many people attended those events (in total)?

100



Beekeeping students learn how to install package bees

Courses & Continuing Education

One of our art professors had students develop pollinator hotels as part of an outdoor sculpture installation on campus. A beekeeping course brought together 12 students to learn the ropes of hive management while becoming empowered as bee ambassadors.

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

1

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

25

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

1

How many participants attended those courses?

12

Service-Learning

A service orientation project brought new students to our Campus Garden to plant pollinator friendly plants and prepare the grounds for activities throughout the semester.

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?

30



Students mulch around a fruit tree as part of a service learning experience.

Educational Signage

We had to relocate our Bee Campus USA signage as use of a space changed, and are in the process of finding a new location for it of equal or greater prominence.

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

1

Policies & Practices

Since our certification as a Bee Campus, we have continued to reduce pesticide use on campus except when necessary for noxious insect or disease management.

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
- 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?

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?

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

OP-9: Integrated Pest Management

Criteria Institution's grounds are developed and maintained in accordance with an integrated pest management plan that adheres to the following four-tiered approach:

- 1) Set action thresholds
- 2) Monitor and identify pests
- 3) Prevention
- 4) Control

The size of the campus grounds **130 Acres**

The size of campus grounds that are maintained in accordance with a four-tiered IPM plan **121 Acres**. **The athletics fields (baseball, softball, lacrosse, and soccer) have their own management practices.**

A brief description of the IPM plan(s)

- 1) **Action is taken when one of three thresholds are hit:**
 - a. **The pest levels are causing impacting the health of the plant/plant population.**
 - b. **The pest levels are causing a MAJOR visual impact on the landscape.**
 - c. **The pest levels are causing a safety impact on the students.**
- 2)
 - a. **Employees (who are continuously monitoring the campus) report any diseased/damaged plant or dangerous insect to their manager.**
 - b. **Grounds manager takes monthly "monitoring walks" of the campus**
- 3)
 - a. **Trees and bushes are trimmed every year to encourage airflow, remove disease and to have a (minimum) once-a-year observation.**
 - b. **Known pests (ex: bagworms, scale, aphids,...) are monitored on susceptible plants at crucial times of year.**

An IPM plan outlines our practices for supporting pollinator and human health on 130 campus acres

Learn More

<https://www.washcoll.edu/sustainability/bee-campus-usa/>