

Bee Campus USA - Farmingdale State College SUNY

Report on 2023

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Please describe pollinator habitat creation or enhancement projects in your community in 2023, and whether your committee hosted them or not.

1. In the summer of 2023 FSC revived it's on-campus community garden (called the Giving Garden). The pollinators frequently visited the vegetables as well as marigolds that lined each bed. 2. The Office for Sustainability held a native plant event outside of Hale Hall. Native plants were purchased and students came to help plant the pollinator friendly plants. 3. The Student Government Association held a tree/flower planting event in honor of Earth Day outside of one of the busiest buildings on campus, Nold Athletic Complex. They planted one tree and numerous flowering plants around the tree. 4. The Horticulture Department has their own separate Teaching Gardens on campus grounds. They are continuously growing, enhancing, and maintaining the area. Pollinators flock to the Teaching Gardens throughout the year.

How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance in 2023?

4

How many people (staff, volunteers, students, partners, etc.) helped with those projects?

40

How many projects benefit monarchs, milkweed, or nectar plantings?

6

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

2000

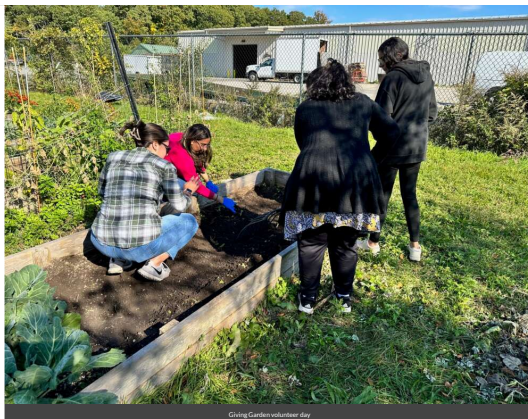
Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance last year with pollinator benefit in mind.

- Flower garden
- Vegetable garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Herb garden
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement

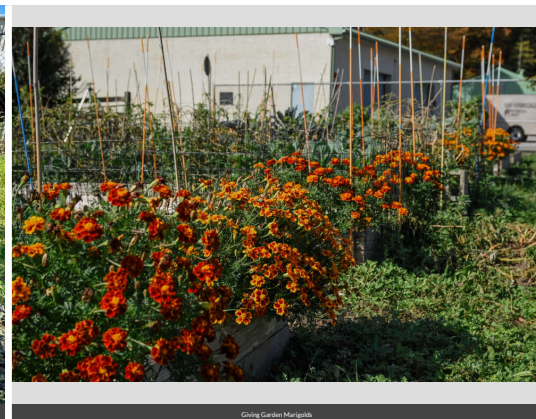
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- School garden



Hale Hall native plant planting event. Photo Credit: Maa Roseval



Giving Garden volunteer day



Giving Garden Marigolds

Education & Outreach

Please describe pollinator conservation events or outreach activities in your community in 2023, indicating whether your committee hosted them or not.

1. FSC's Horticulture Department held a honey sale in the fall of 2023. This honey was cultivated from their on-campus Teaching Gardens. The sale highlighted the importance of pollinators and how big of a role they play in our food systems. 2. FSC's Office for Sustainability promoted Xerces educational webinars on its social media outlets.

How many pollinator-related events or outreach activities did you host or help with in 2023 (in total)?

8

How many people attended those events (in total)?

75

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

2

Number of temporary interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed in 2023?

2



Horticulture Department Honey Sale. Photo Credit: Jonathan Lehrer



Curriculum, Continuing Education, & Service Learning

Please describe the curriculum your campus engaged in 2023, indicating whether it was part of a for-credit course or continuing education.

In the fall of 2023, the Director of Facilities Operations partnered with the Horticulture Department's Landscape Plans I class to develop a design for one of the campus' front entrances. The designs included various flowering plants that would directly benefit and increase the amount of pollinators on the campus.

How many of your for-credit courses included pollinator-related information in 2023?

2

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

50

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 in 2023 to enhance pollinator habitat on or off-campus?

24

Please describe the service-learning projects your students were engaged in 2023, indicating which, if any, were associated with a course.

RAM Program and the Honors Student Association both had volunteer events up at the Giving Garden.



Student Honors Association volunteer day at the Giving Garden. Photo Credit: Eugene Kwak

Policies & Practices

Please describe actions taken to make pest management more pollinator-friendly.

The campus Sustainability Manager has begun working closely with the campus grounds manager to ensure that a minimal amount of pesticides are used on campus. Currently, there is very little used (except for the main entrance areas). We are working towards switching even those products to organic in 2024.

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

The development of a campus-wide IPM plan is underway by the Office for Sustainability for 2024.

Did your committee participate in any continuing education on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management planning?

No

Please check actions you have taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly.

- 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)
- Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

One of the main lessons we learned in 2023 is that working with classes on projects/events makes for more successful programs. Involvement and engagement numbers are lower when a class isn't directly partnered with. Bee Campus USA affiliates should take advantage of the fact that they have students they can work with for education or outreach related activities.

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

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