

Bee Campus USA - Indiana State University

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.

All currently established pollinator habitats were maintained as part of routine campus landscape management practices. A new composting program was established to reduce food waste from entering the waste stream and provide finished compost for expansion and establishment of new native flower gardens. The Food Forest Program pollination gardens were enhanced and expanded to include the northside of the plot. Worked with local city parks to enhance the Native American Heritage Garden and preformed several weed wrangles aimed at reducing invasives and promoting the growth of native plant species. Enhanced the landscape around the Sycamore Solar Leaf.

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

9

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

45

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

9500

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
- 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
- Roadside/rights of way planting
- School garden



Spring planting on ISU campus during a Donaghy Day event



2023 Blue Stem Interns during a weed wrangle event.



Handing out native plants during the Earth Day Celebration event

Education & Outreach

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

In 2023, Indiana State University's Office of Sustainability hosted several educational and outreach events aimed at raising awareness of invasive plant species, the importance of native plant species, and the importance of pollinators. These events included our 16th Annual Earth Day Celebration, 2nd Annual Sycamore Food Forest Fall Festival, Bat Fest festival, Conservation Days, K-8 summer camps, weed wrangles and community garden events.

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

9

How many people attended those events (in total)?

1098

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

4



New pollinator garden planted along a tree row.



Office of Sustainability table during the Family Learning event.



Table display at the Sycamore Food Forest Fall Festival



Curriculum, Continuing Education, & Service Learning



BlueStem Summer Internship



2023 ISU Eco Reps during the Weigh the Waste Campaign



Volunteers helping out at the ISU Community Gardens



BlueStem Interns restoring the Native American Heritage Garden

Policies & Practices

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

Wherever possible, the preferred method is to use biological controls or natural substances for controlling pests, plant diseases, and weeds on campus, when natural diversity planning has failed. This allows us to limit the type and quantity of chemical and other less desirable controls. Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List — <https://www.indstate.edu/university-engagement/sustainability>

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

Wabash Riverfront Development Project

Did your committee participate in any continuing education on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management planning?
ISU Grounds Dept. staff regularly attend professional development and training opportunities pertaining to sustainable landscape practices.

Please check actions you have 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
- Restricted pesticides used to organic pesticides on city or campus grounds
- Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides on city or campus grounds
- Dropped pesticide use altogether on city or campus grounds
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<https://www.indstate.edu/facilities/grounds-maintenance>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.indstate.edu/university-engagement/sustainability>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: