Bee Campus USA - Luther College

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.

Enhancement projects included maintenance prescribed burns on over 18 acres of planted tallgrass prairie and oak savanna habitat with RPBB on site. Additionally areas of woods were grazed by goats to control invasive buckthorn to enhance RPBB overwintering habitat.

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

6

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

54

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

8

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

800197

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

- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Rain garden/bioswale
- Roadside/rights of way planting
- Other

Luther students help with a prescribed burn maintaining habitat in Anderson Prairie on April 10, 2023 (photo by K. Larsen)

Education & Outreach

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

Performed monarch butterfly counts and floral use counts during the fall migration (not committee, but committee members). Native plant sale

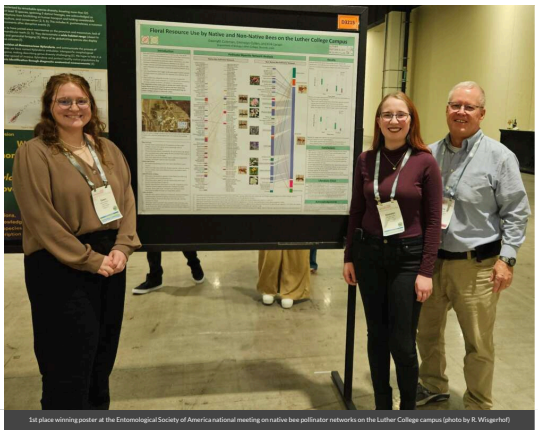
How many pollinator-related events or outreach activities did you host or help with in 2023 (in total)?

2

How many people attended those events (in total)?

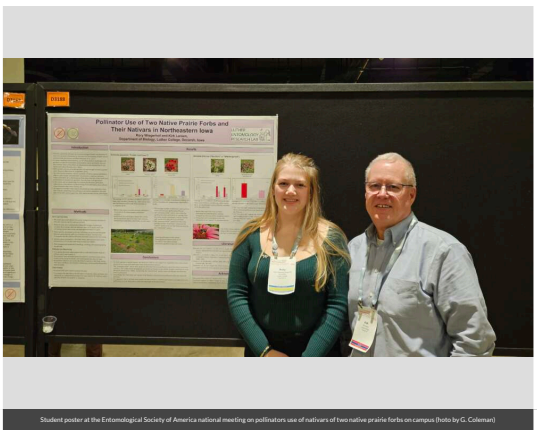
129

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



1st place winning poster at the Entomological Society of America national meeting on native bee pollinator networks on the Luther College campus (photo by R. Wisgerhof)

2nd place winning poster at the Entomological Society of America national meeting on native bee diversity on the Luther College campus (photo by R. Wisgerhof)



Student poster at the Entomological Society of America national meeting on pollinators use of nativars of two native prairie forbs on campus (hoto by G. Coleman)

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.

3 sections of BIO 151 Ecology, Evolution and Bioldiversity (for credit course) participated in our annual monarch counts during the fall migration. BIO 251 Entomology participated in various pollinator related projects (for-credit course)

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

6

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

145

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

22

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

BIO 112 Insects, Humans and the Environment grew native plants in the greenhouse and transplanted in to the campus prairies enhancing habitat.

Policies & Practices

Please describe actions taken to make pest management more pollinator-friendly.
Kept pushing on the administration to adopt our draft IPM plan, so far it has not been acted on.

In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?
no new initiatives

Did your committee participate in any continuing education on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management planning?
not this year

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

- Only use pesticides as a last resort within the 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)
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids
- Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants using "Buying Bee-Safe Plants" methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants)

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: DRAFT Luther College IPM Policy Dec 2021 for review.pdf

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: Native Plant Suppliers for NE Iowa.pdf

https://www2.luther.edu/biology/facilities-natural-areas/BeeCampusUSA/
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