

Bee Campus USA - Nash Community 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.

Arbor Day Celebration – Nashville Elementary School Tree-Planting Location: Nashville Elementary School orchard, Nashville, NC The Town of Nashville hosted a tree-planting event in celebration of Arbor Day. This event took place at Nashville Elementary School and was attended by Nash CC students, staff, faculty, community members and elementary students. Elementary school students help plant a fig tree, apple tree, and blueberry bushes. Nash CC biology students and Bee Campus members assisted with the celebration and helped students plant the trees and shrubs. **Arbor Day Celebration – Nash Community College Tree-Planting Location:** Nash Community College, NC Nash Community College hosted a tree-planting event in celebration of Arbor Day. This event was attended by Nash CC students, staff, faculty, and Bee Campus members. In recognition of Arbor Day, a Catalpa tree was planted on campus grounds. **Invasive Species Lab Location:** Stoney Creek Park in Nashville, NC Hosted by the Town of Nashville Biology students at Nash Community College got a chance to work with Biologists in the field to learn about pollinators, invasive plant species, and methods of removal. The Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation Foundation students worked at Stoney Creek Park to see what invasive species were in the area. The invasive species were removed, and native species were planted in their place. Students also learned about the importance of native species and their contribution to the ecosystem and pollinator conservation.

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

12

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

20

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

1

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

15000

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
- 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
- School garden
- Other



Arbor Day Celebration - Nash Community College Tree Planting - To celebrate Arbor Day, master gardener Ken White and college president, Dr. Low Hurnicuff planted a Catalpa tree on the campus grounds. Photo credit: Christine Bice



Invasive Species Lab - Nash Community College biology students remove invasive species and plant native species along the banks of Stony Creek in Nashville, NC. Photo credit: Hazel Cole



Arbor Day Celebration - Nash Community College Tree Planting - Nash Community College students, staff, faculty, and representatives of the Town of Nashville gather to plant a Catalpa tree on the campus grounds. Photo credit: Christine Bice

Education & Outreach

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

Eggciting Saturday Location – Town of Nashville, NC Hosted by the Town of Nashville A community outreach event in the spring of 2023 that allowed community partners to interact with and teach local children and families. Bee campus members educated locals on bee keeping practices and local pollinators, and distributed wildflower seeds. A

Celebration of Pollinators Conference Location: Town of Nashville, NC Hosted by Nash County Master Gardener Volunteers A community outreach event in the summer of 2023 that included several presentations about saving Monarchs, attracting butterflies to your yard, and beekeeping. Native plants, including milkweed, were available for purchase. Approximately 200 people attended this event. Lettie Allen, Nash Community College Bee Campus Committee chair, presented "Bring Back the Pollinators." She discussed the purpose of Bee Campus USA and how we try to fulfill that purpose at Nash Community College. She also discussed native bee diversity and how we can foster their habitat needs and prevent habitat loss. Nash Community College Summer STEM Camp – 3D pollinator activities Location: Nash Community College, NC Hosted by Nash Community College/Bee Campus Committee Reggie Cobb, a Nash Community college Biology instructor, conducted a summer STEM camp for elementary aged students. During this camp, Lettie Allen presented about the importance of pollinators and the difference between honeybees and native bees. Lettie discussed the importance of pollinator homes and how to construct various types of pollinator homes. Reggie helped students digitally design pollinator homes and print them with a 3D printer. Professional Development Talk – How to Participate in the Great Pollinator Census Location: Nash Community College, NC Hosted by Nash Community College/Bee Campus Committee Christine Ricci and Lettie Allen presented to the faculty and staff of Nash Community College on how to participate in the upcoming Great Southeast Pollinator Census. They detailed the importance of collecting a pollinator census and described out to identify different pollinator species. Participants were also given instructions on how to complete and submit their results for the Great Southeast Pollinator Census. Great Southeast Pollinator Census Location: Nash Community College, NC Hosted by University of Georgia/Nash Community College/Bee Campus Committee This project was an initiative of the University of Georgia and promoted pollinator conservation through a pollinator census on our campus and in our community. This project aimed to create sustainable pollinator habitats, increase the entomological literacy of our citizens, and generate useful data about our pollinator populations. The students, staff, and faculty of Nash Community College participated in this project.

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

7

How many people attended those events (in total)?

450

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

6

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

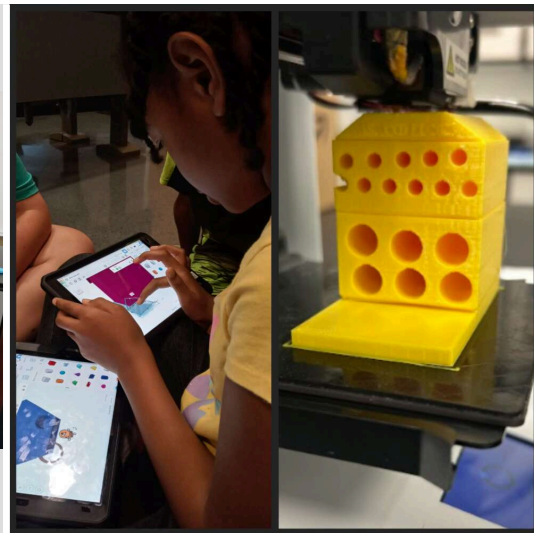
2



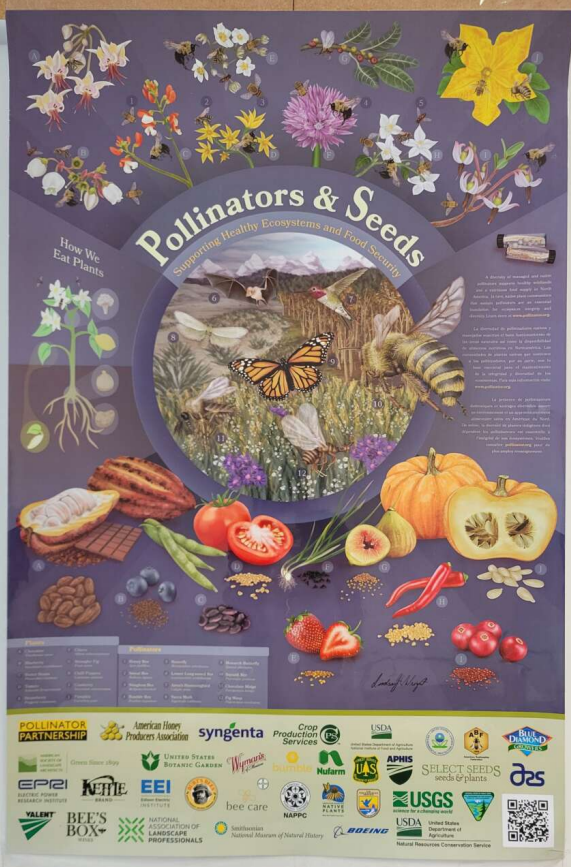
Eggling Saturday - Christine Ricci talks to a family about beekeeping. Photo credit: Leticia Allen



Nash CC Summer STEM Camp - Reggie Cobb shows students how to design a pollinator home on a 3D printing software. Each student designed and printed Nash CC Summer STEM Camp - Reggie Cobb shows students how to design a pollinator home on a 3D printing software. The students designed and printed their own pollinator homes. Photo credit: Reggie Cobb



Nash CC Summer STEM Camp - A STEM camp student designed her pollinator home and printed it on a 3D printer. Photo credit: Reggie Cobb



Pollinators & Seeds - This temporary sign hangs in the hallway of the Science & Technology building on the Nash Community College campus. This sign informs readers about the balance between pollinators and the ecosystem.



The Pollination Equation - This temporary sign hangs in the hallway of the Science & Technology building on the Nash Community College campus. This sign informs readers about other important pollinators in our ecosystem besides bees.

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.

Continuing Education Course: HOR 245 (Spring 2021) – Horticulture Curriculum Course: BIO 110 (Spring and Fall 2021) – Principles of Biology Curriculum Course: BIO 112 (Spring and Fall 2021) – General Biology II Ken White, the college landscape specialist, teaches a Continuing Education Horticulture course. This course targets local citizens. Along with landscaping and grounds-keeping practices, students learn about important local pollinators and their habitats. They also learn about safe pest management practices. Lettie Allen, a biology instructor, incorporates pollinator behavioral studies and plant and pollinator relationships into the General Biology I and II curriculum. Christine Ricci, a biology instructor, includes pollinator studies and pollinator habitat preservation into the Principles of Biology curriculum. As a part of this course, she and Ken white introduce students to bee-keeping and their importance as pollinators. Biology instructor, Reggie Cobb, incorporated pollinator studies and pollinator habitat preservation into the Principles of Biology curriculum and also allowed his students to 3D-print pollinator homes for our local pollinators. Professor Reggie Cobb guided his Principles of Biology (BIO 110) students along the banks of Stoney Creek to remove non-native plant species and replace them with native species. This event was part of the Invasive Species Lab.

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

2

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

150

How many of your continuing education courses included pollinator-related information in 2023?

1

How many participants attended those courses?

20

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

N/A



Invasive Species Lab - Professor Reggie Cobb directs a team of Principles of Biology (BIO 110) students to remove invasive species and plant native species along the banks of Stoney Creek in Nashville, NC. Photo credit: Reggie Cobb

Policies & Practices

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

Integrated pest management is always used throughout our campus. Any pollinator gardens or vegetable gardens are totally controlled organically. Glyphosate is used sparingly and is the only herbicide used on campus. We use mulch as a weed suppressant. We directly treat individual fire ant hills. There is no broadcast application of chemicals.

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

- Implemented or maintained a written IPM plan
- 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)
- 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
- Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides 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
- 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>)
- Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants that were not treated with neonicotinoids

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

N/A

Nash Community College Bee Campus Committee - 2021



Covington, Adrienne
V.P., Finance/CFO



Ricci, Christine
Instructor, Biology



White, Ken
Master Gardener/Instructor



Allen, Lettie
Instructor, Biology



Christine Ricci



Ken White



Lettie Allen

This photo includes all 2023 Nash Community College Bee Campus members and their positions at the college.

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<https://ipm.ces.ncsu.edu/ipm-honey-bees/>

Recommended Native Plant List: [NC-NativePlants.pdf](#)

<https://ncbg.unc.edu/plants/resources-for-gardeners/>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://ncbg.unc.edu/plants/resources-for-gardeners/>

<https://www.nashcc.edu/>

<https://www.instagram.com/nashbio>

<https://www.facebook.com/nashcommunitycollege>