

# Bee Campus USA - Oklahoma 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.*

One of our larger outreach activities was a planting day of a native garden and installation of a pollinator hotel. This 5,000 sf garden was planted by students who were recruited through classes and social media announcements.

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

2

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

24

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

2

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

10000

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

- Flower garden
- Meadow
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting



## Education & Outreach

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

**Our campus is home to a beekeeping club where experienced and new beekeepers can meet and learn from one another. This is a monthly event and is not specifically hosted by our committee.**

*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)?*

90

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

4

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

2



Beekeeping Club 1, Dr. Courtney Bir



Beekeeping Club 2, Dr. Courtney Bir



Beekeeping Club 3, Dr. Courtney Bir

# Native Plant Corridor



The Native Plant Corridor was established in 2016 with the help of a SGA Sustainability Green Student Initiative Grant.

It is separated into three main areas:

☞ Engineering South ☞ Edmon Low Library ☞ Biodiversity Garden, Physical Sciences

Running from Hester St. to Monroe, the Native Plant Corridor includes art, topiaries, sitting areas, and a pollinator hotel. OSU has been awarded several certifications for the corridor that support our campus sustainability initiatives, such as being a Monarch Waystation and an Oklahoma Wildscape.



To learn more please visit QR code

## 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.*

We have a dedicated Department of Entomology & Plant Pathology, Extension Services, and Insect outreach center (Insect Adventure). OSU is one of only 16 universities in the nation with an entomology program and has the second largest enrollment. Due to our dedicated Department of Entomology & Plant Pathology we offer undergraduate and graduate degrees in entomology, thus many courses teach or include pollinator-related course information. Currently there exists over a dozen factsheets accessible to the public in the extension services database. The importance of pollinators are included in coursework, extension factsheets, and exhibited at Insect Adventure. Insect Adventure, part of Extension Services and dedicated to insect outreach reaches over 300,000 people annually.

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

16

*How many students attended those for-credit courses?*

300

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

1

*How many participants attended those courses?*

25

*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?*

35

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

For the first service learning project, we created a pocket prairie. A professor of dept. of civil and environmental engineering brought out 22 students to attend the project.



Students at a service learning project tree planting, OSU FM

## Policies & Practices

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

Large areas of campus are dedicated as areas that will not be sprayed with pesticides and have native plantings that attract all of the areas pollinators. We have worked with faculty to be educated about the monarch butterflies and learned more about their ongoing research.

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

No

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

We work with campus clubs that protect and provide bee habitat such as garden spaces and hives, we also work with research groups studying insects.

*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)
- Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides on city or campus grounds
- 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 that were not treated with neonicotinoids

---

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [Integrated Pest Management.docx](#)  
[https://fm.okstate.edu/landscape-services/site-files/docs/maint\\_ipm.pdf](https://fm.okstate.edu/landscape-services/site-files/docs/maint_ipm.pdf)

Recommended Native Plant List: [Plant list 1111.docx](#)  
[https://fm.okstate.edu/landscape-services/native\\_plant\\_corridor.html](https://fm.okstate.edu/landscape-services/native_plant_corridor.html)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Native Plant Nurseries.docx](#)

<https://fm.okstate.edu/landscape-services/sustainability/>  
[katie.beitz@okstate.edu](mailto:katie.beitz@okstate.edu)

<https://instagram.com/osugreen/>