

Bee Campus USA - Syracuse 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.

In the previous year, the Bee Campus USA committee initiated a significant project aimed at bolstering local biodiversity. This involved transplanting 10/12 different species of native plants from one garden to another. Moreover, we were fortunate to receive a generous donation of approximately 24 additional native plants, strategically planted alongside the others in front of the Sustainability Management Office. As part of our commitment to sustainable practices, we installed a rain barrel with a hose system to ensure efficient watering of all the plants throughout the summer, minimizing reliance on city water. This commendable effort was made possible through a collaboration with a dedicated high school student who interned with our Sustainability Management team. The student, with a keen interest in agriculture and the pivotal role of native plants in supporting pollinator species, played a crucial role in the successful execution of the project. By integrating the knowledge and enthusiasm of the intern, we not only expanded our native plant collection but also provided valuable learning experiences for students involved in the initiative. This collaborative effort reflects Bee Campus USA's dedication to promoting environmental awareness, community engagement, and sustainable practices.

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?

5

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

2

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
- Herb garden

- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
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Education & Outreach

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

Bee Campus USA at Syracuse University organized a special children's event hosted in the Bee Campus USA Garden. Led by M. Cadwell, the event included an engaging tour of both the Bee Campus Garden and Pete's Giving Garden for students from the La Casita Cultural Center at Syracuse University. During the tour, students had the opportunity to explore and learn about native plants, understanding their significance in supporting pollinators. The session covered the reasons behind the establishment of the pollinator garden at Syracuse University. Students actively engaged with the plants, touching them, smelling the fragrances, and observing the pollinators in action. After the tour of the pollinator garden, the group ventured into Pete's Giving Garden to discover an array of fruits and vegetables. A memorable highlight was the chance for students to taste some of the fresh vegetables and herbs directly from the garden. For some, this experience marked their first encounter with certain vegetables, like beans, making it a valuable and eye-opening experience. As a thoughtful gesture, before departing, the students were gifted honey from the university's own bee hives. This honey would be enjoyed during their upcoming Tea and Biscuit event the following day. The event not only fostered a connection with nature and sustainable practices but also provided an enriching educational experience for the participating students.

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

10

How many people attended those events (in total)?

80

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

1

Curriculum, Continuing Education, & Service Learning

Policies & Practices

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)
 - Restricted pesticides used to organic pesticides on city or campus grounds
 - Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids
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Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://sustainability.syracuse.edu/commitment/>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: