

# Bee Campus USA - University of Arkansas

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.*

**Our office along with some professors have made a big push to restore a large green roof on Camus that had been taken over by invasive grasses. We used this as a learning opportunity for students to help clear the rooftop and reestablish it with pollinator friendly native plants.**

*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?*

12

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

2

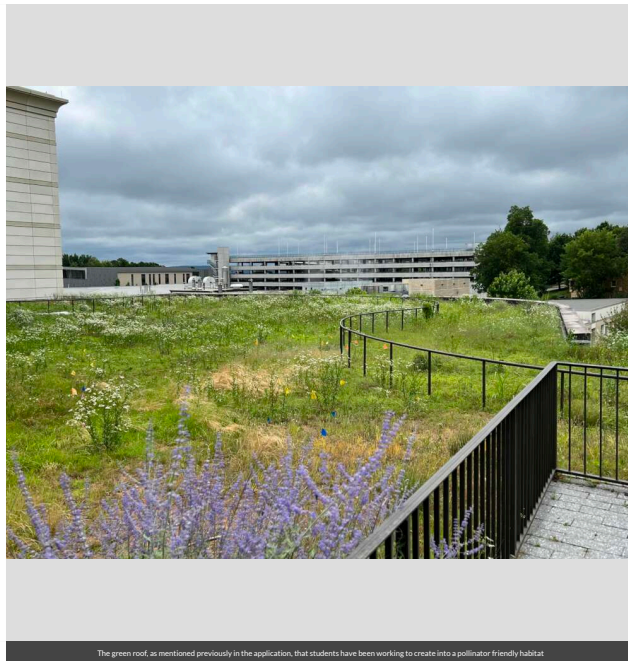
*Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance last year with pollinator benefit in mind.*

- Flower garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Meadow
- 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
- Rain garden/bioswale

- Roadside/rights of way planting



A pollinator friendly bed that has been well established for over 4 years now



The green roof, as mentioned previously in the application, that students have been working to create into a pollinator friendly habitat



Close up of a bee on some native pollinators in a bed on campus

## Education & Outreach

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

**Our office hosted several events that educated students, faculty, and staff about the negative impacts invasive species have on our campus and greater community. We also taught them how to identify and remove invasive, and how to replant natives in their place.**

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

**39**

*How many people attended those events (in total)?*

**740**

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

**20**

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



Students learning hands on about pollinators



Students working to remove invasive grasses on a green roof



Student volunteers on an outreach workday



One of the many Native Wildflower Planting signs that are disbursed throughout campus on our ongoing projects



A permanent educational sign installed on campus

## 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.*

The curriculum for for-credit courses cover topics such as the importance of pollinators, their role in ecosystems and food production, conservation strategies, and the impacts of factors like habitat loss and pesticides on pollinator populations.

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

11

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

665

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

4

*How many participants attended those courses?*

20

*How many service-learning projects did your campus host and/or support to enhance pollinator habitat on- and off- campus?*

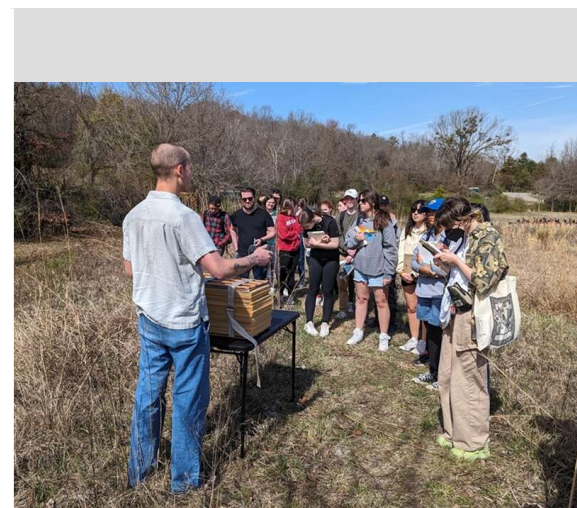
2

*How many students participated in service-learning projects in 2023 to enhance pollinator habitat on or off-campus?*

45

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

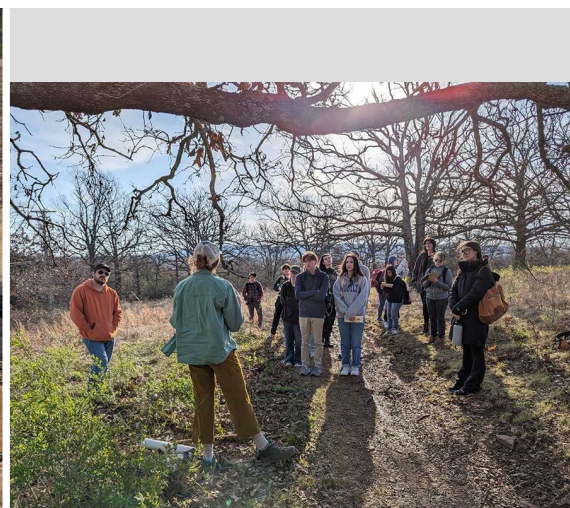
Art students went out to the UA's Oak Knoll property to study the importance of the plants, do on-site drawings to help conserve the area visually, as well as do seed collections. The Oak Knoll is home to several naturally occurring habitats, including a tallgrass prairie, oak savanna, forested and open wetlands, and a large stream. Once prevalent in Northwest Arkansas, the prairie and savanna landscapes have largely disappeared due to agricultural and urban development. Though fragmented, the remnant contains a diversity of plant species and represents the native Ozark floral and faunal landscapes that were once widespread across Northwest Arkansas. Plant species present throughout the property are vital to the survival of certain pollinators and grassland birds. Jennifer Ogle, botanist and collections manager of the U of A Herbarium, emphasized the value of native plants, framing them as the backbone of a healthy ecosystem. She also discussed the importance of documenting the native plant species present at the site. The rich ecosystem at the site is a true jewel of campus and provides students with a unique immersive learning experience.



art students at the remnant prairie service learning project



students doing live paintings of the remnant prairie to bring awareness to the community via art



Art students learning from horticulture graduate students who have been working and researching in the remnant prairie

## Policies & Practices

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

All insecticides used on the campus are materials and formulations registered by the EPA for control of targeted insects in public use areas. Materials include a range of different chemical classes with different modes of action. Specific insecticides selected for use are those which pose the least risk to humans and other non-targeted organisms from toxicity and residue persistence. A preference is given to biological control agents over non-biological toxicants. Selection of all insecticides are made in consultation with the U of A Department of Entomology as appropriate.

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

There are many policies in place to minimize pesticide negative externalities. A comprehensive overview can be found at: <https://vcfa.uark.edu/fayetteville-policies-procedures/fama/7300.php>

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

The U of A does have an IPM plan that has been approved by the U of A Sustainability Council. That document can be found at: [https://sustainability.uark.edu/\\_resources/publication-series/major-reports/2014-10-ipm-plan.pdf](https://sustainability.uark.edu/_resources/publication-series/major-reports/2014-10-ipm-plan.pdf)

*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
- Dropped pesticide use altogether 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 that were not treated with neonicotinoids

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Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [UA ipm-plan.pdf](#)

<https://sustainability.uark.edu/resources/pdfs/REPORTS/reports-ipm-2014.pdf>

Recommended Native Plant List:

[http://planning.uark.edu/campus\\_planning/content/landscape%20character%20zones%20and%20approved%20plants%20lists.pdf](http://planning.uark.edu/campus_planning/content/landscape%20character%20zones%20and%20approved%20plants%20lists.pdf)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://anps.org/resources/plant-sources/>

<https://biodiversity.uark.edu>

[eboles@uark.edu](mailto:eboles@uark.edu)

<https://www.instagram.com/sustainua/?hl=en>