

Bee Campus USA - University of Minnesota Twin Cities

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.

Habitat creation and enhancement projects included: 1. Off Site Collections Facility Como Area Seeded 15,472 sq ft. stormwater detention basin 2. Outside of Animal Science building on St. Paul Campus Seeded 2,300 sq ft. short dry grasses and forbs 3. Comstock Rooftop Courtyard on East Bank Campus Seeded 5,115 sq ft. bee lawn 4. Bee yard at Bee Lab – about 200 sq ft raised beds, plus another 200 sq ft of habitat enhancement in the garden 5. Bee yard in Rosemont, off campus UMN owned land 5. Snag outside of Hodson Hall to provide nesting habitat for bees Habitat creation and enhancement projects were hosted and supported by members of our committee through affiliated groups like UMN Bee Lab and UMN Landcare, rather than by the committee itself. These projects involved UMN staff and a group of volunteers.

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?

22

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

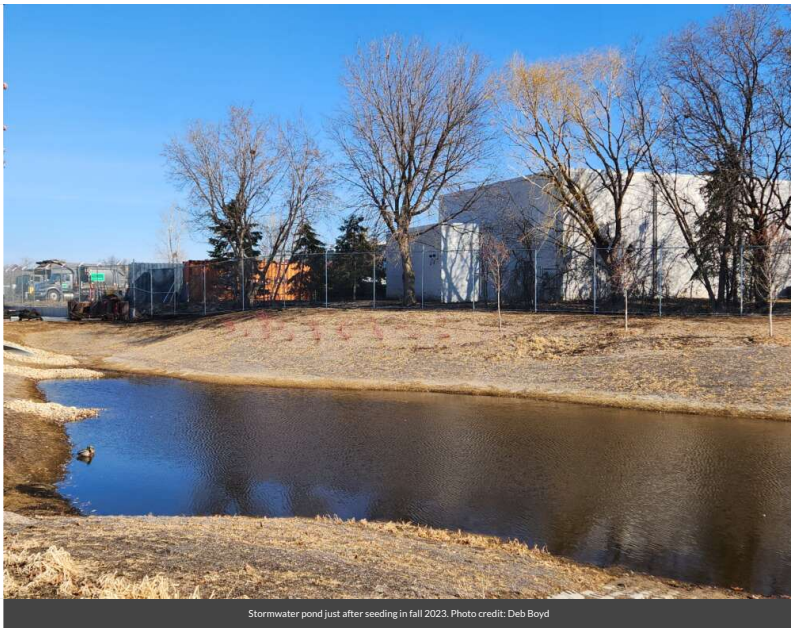
1

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

23287

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
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)



Stormwater pond just after seeding in fall 2023. Photo credit: Deb Boyd



Pollinator habitat installation outside of the Microbial Cell Production Facility at UMN. Photo credit: Deb Boyd

Education & Outreach

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

UMN Staff that are part of our Bee Campus committee attended many pollinator-centered events such as the Minneapolis Monarch Festival, Wakan Tipi's Pollinator Festival, Landscape Revival Plant Sale, and more. We had a table set up at each of these events with pollinator information and handouts on ways to support bees. These events were open to the public. Our Bee Campus Committee also attended UMN's Sustainability Fair that is hosted during move-in week for freshman students. At events we attended, educators brought the Bee Squad's Pollinator Toolkit to facilitate games and activities for event attendees, such as pollinator trivia. The majority of the events were attended, not hosted by our committee.

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

34

How many people attended those events (in total)?

3476

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

2

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

18



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.

Freshman seminar course, "Got bees?" (for-credit) Insect biology course, "How Insects Shape Society" (for-credit) Insect biology course, "Honey Bees and Insect Societies" (for-credit) Art course, "Art and Ecology" (for-credit) Midwest Bumble Bee ID (continuing education) Minnesota Bumble Bee Atlas Trainings (continuing education) Pollinators in the Science Classroom (continuing education) Beekeeping in Northern Climates (continuing education)

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

4

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

202

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

4

How many participants attended those courses?

428

Policies & Practices

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

The University of Minnesota follows the IPM practices developed by UMN Extension:

<https://extension.umn.edu/how/preventing-pests-your-yard-and-garden>

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

In April 2024, Operation Pollination (<https://operationpollination.net/>) will be hosting a pollinator resolution signing on our campus. UMN staff will be signing the resolution.

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

No

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

- Implemented or maintained a written 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)



UMN BEE CAMPUS COMMITTEE

University of Minnesota Bee Campus Committee. From top left: Elise Bernstein, Elaine Evans, Marla Spivak, Thea Evans, Deb Boyd, Christine Baeumler (bottom right)

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [UMN Twin Cities Landcare maintenance IPM practices for pollinator plant areas.docx](https://beelab.umn.edu/pesticide-free-plants)

<https://beelab.umn.edu/pesticide-free-plants>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UfpemJGEeV72P3muVFqPSuOLVeGj047u/view>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://beelab.umn.edu/help-bees/actions-help-bees/plant-bee-flowers/native-plants>