

# Bee Campus USA - University of Washington Bothell/Cascadia 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.*

A new building completed construction in 2023, Innovation Hall. Innovation Hall's landscape and rain gardens include entirely native and climate adapted plants, like Blue Elderberry, Coastal Strawberry, Oregon Oxalis, Slough Sledge, and Deer Grass. This practice aligns with the rest of campus's plant selection and helps to reduce water use, close pollinator gaps, and provide nesting habitat for pollinators and other wildlife. In addition, our grounds team manages our entire campus organically and uses permaculture practices. Our campus wetland natural area is constantly monitored for invasive species which are removed by hand. Our garden beds are planned to have flowers blooming at different times of the year and with different flowering species. We also maintain a small campus farm, two orchards, an herb garden, and other edible spaces on campus.

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

3

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

2

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

20000

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

- 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
- 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
- School garden



Sign promoting CCUWBee research initiative (UWB/CC Sustainability)

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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.*

Dr. Amy Lambert's class participated in a mason bee habitat building project. This workshop was led by Dr. Lambert, our committee chair. We hosted two events for students to make seed bombs and learn about campus pollinating plants. At this event, we highlighted the benefits of native plantings for pollinators, and helped students spread seeds to unplanted and unmanaged areas. Event was planned by committee members Stephan Classen and Rachel Luther. Our offices hosted a 'Lunch and Learn' farm and plants workshop series for staff and students. This five-part series had guest speakers on organic farming, gardening, and highlighted the importance of pollinators.

*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)?*

100

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

3

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

6



First event in our Farm Lunch Series in April, at our greenhouse. (UWB/CC Sustainability)



Visit from ReWild your campus as part of our Green Grounds certification. (UWB/CC Sustainability)



Photo of campus sustainability awards, including our Salmon Safe certification. (UWB/CC Sustainability)



Sign highlighting our pesticide-free zones for human and more-than-human wellbeing. (UWB/CC Sustainability)

## 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.*

At Cascadia College, an entry-level botany class (BIOL 213) is taught annually. This class covers the types of flowers that attract different types of pollinators. This class usually has an enrollment of about 60 students per year. Another entry-level environmental survey class (ENVS 101) teaches about the ecosystem services that pollinators provide. Some other classes cover pollinators as an example of mutualism but they are not heavily ingrained into the curriculum.

The UWB Pollinator Diversity and Conservation course (BIS 360) is taught every spring and includes curriculum on how insects influence our lives including in medicine, agriculture, and the arts. UWB's Ecology Course (BES 312) is taught every quarter where pollination and pollinators are included in the curriculum for ecosystem functionality, ecosystem services, pollination syndrome, and species adaptations and interactions. Pollinators are brought up in additional classes as examples of ecosystem services and ecological functions but are not a main topic in the courses. These include biodiversity conservation and introductory biology.

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

4

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

255

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

4

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

73

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

We hosted two events in Spring of 2023 for students to make "seed bombs" using native and wildflower seeds. Students were instructed to disperse seed bombs in unattended areas in order to create pollinator habitats. Dr. Amy Lambert included a mason bee nesting habitat building workshop in her course, Pollinator Diversity and Conservation. Students volunteered with our grounds team as part of their Cultural Studies course project. They helped with Douglas aster nursery care in preparation for planting in the spring.

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## Policies & Practices

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

Campus maintains pesticide-free zones on campus. We continue our practice of minimal spot treatment with pesticides to avoid broad application. We also avoid synthetic pesticides and pesticides deemed hazardous by Salmon Safe.

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

Practicing the latest and safest recommendations is a key initiative for our campus. Our certifying bodies at Salmon Safe and Green Grounds are two ways we maintain and demonstrate our commitment to protecting pollinators, waterways, and people. We are committed to best practices as outlined by Salmon Safe. We've been certified since

2008 and we continue to improve our stormwater management and pollution prevention to protect our wetlands and salmon-bearing streams. We are also Green Grounds platinum certified. This certification requires that 100% of our grounds are managed without synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

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

**We did not host any continuing education initiatives in 2023.**

*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

*Any lessons learned you would like to share?*

We have found that with committing to pesticide free and organic landscaping, we have better habitat and grounds for both people and animals. This also quickly created other benefits, from staff groundskeeper time, to reducing costs, to reducing our carbon footprint for climate action. Committing to protecting pollinators helped justify many of our management practices, and has let us connect with multiple other groups, organizations, schools, and interested community members.



Photo of our No Mow signs (UWB/CC Sustainability)

Learn More

**Integrated Pest Management Plan:** [UWB IPM Procedure with Appendices.pdf](#)

<https://www.uwb.edu/campus-sustainability/campus-operations/grounds>

**Recommended Native Plant List:**

<https://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/water-and-land/yard-and-garden/native-plant-guide-western-washington.pdf>

**Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:**

<https://sites.uw.edu/ccuwbee/the-initiative/>  
[uwbsust@uw.edu](mailto:uwbsust@uw.edu)

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