

# Bee Campus USA - University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

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 committee hosted two campus work days during the fall semester. We collaborated with a student organization to work in the campus garden as well as the sustainability space. The campus garden consists of a small space where both perennial plants, fruit trees, and annual vegetables are grown. The sustainability space is an area on campus that focuses on native pollinator habitat. 10-20 students were able to come and prepare the garden beds for winter and add some new seeds of milkweed and other native pollinator seeds to the sustainability space. Other native seeds included butterfly weed, anise hyssop, prairie blazing star, and monarda.

*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?*

30

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

2

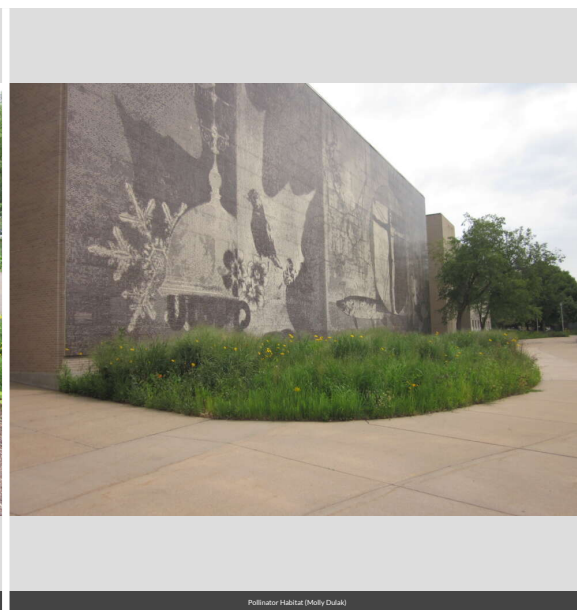
*How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?*

80000

*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
- 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
- School garden



## Education & Outreach

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

In May of 2023, our campus participated in No Mow May that is organized by the city of Stevens Point. Only 1 lawn space on campus participated in the program, however, this seemed like a big accomplishment for us as the university is not always willing to let the aesthetic appearance of the campus go wild with long grass and weeds. This lawn space is also in a very clear and visible part of campus, so the community was able to see our efforts to participate.

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

1

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

3



University Lawn Space Participating in No Mow May (Dave Barbier)



Designated Pollinator Habitat (Katherine Bellow)



Designated Pollinator Habitat (Katherine Bellow)



Designated Pollinator Habitat (Katherine Bellow)

## 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.*

For credit course information related to identifying pollinator groups, including bees, flies, butterflies, and other taxa, as well as planting bee-friendly trees and shrubs, and other forestry practices that encourage pollinator habitat. What people can do to promote pollinators and provide habitat; covers no-mow May and other events students can participate in; describes what the UWSP campus is doing to promote pollinators and habitat. How to manage certain habitats for pollinator species; lab component includes planning and seeding managed properties with seed mixes that are beneficial to pollinator species

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

9

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

850

*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?

30

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

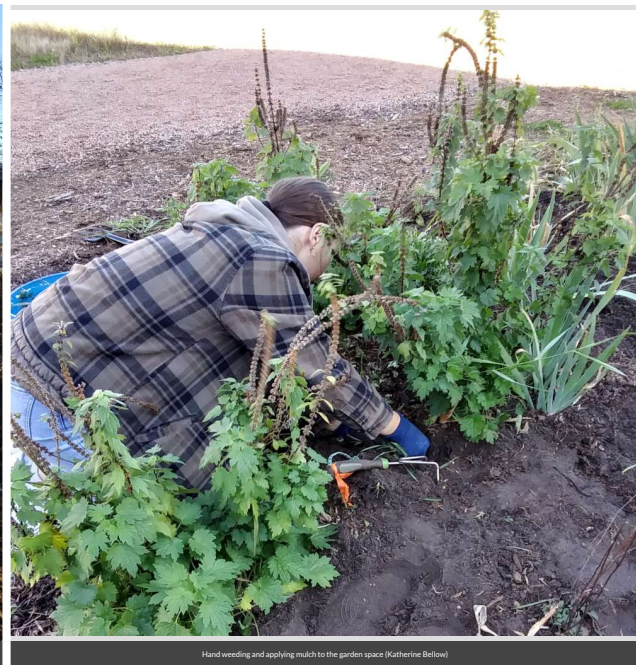
Many students from different areas of study came to help hand weed and plant native pollinator seeds in two of the garden spaces on campus. This was all on a volunteer basis and not associated with any particular course. This gave the students an opportunity to network with other students, learn about the plant species found in these spaces, and how to care for these spaces.



Hand-weeding a garden bed (Katherine Bellow)



Spreading Mulch and Compost in the Campus Garden (Katherine Bellow)



Hand weeding and applying mulch to the garden space (Katherine Bellow)

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## Policies & Practices

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

Three large areas on campus have been designated pesticide-free. We have also increased the amount of hand-weeding done on our campus, which has reduced the amount of pesticides applied.

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

No Mow May is a community effort that started in 2022, the community has since grown the number of participants and even made the program more accessible by removing mandatory registration and fining for anyone who did not mow their lawns during the month of May. The Community is also working on a program called "Lawns Gone Native". This initiative would help to promote community members to plant native pollinator habitat in their lawn.

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
- 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)
- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids
- Encouraged developers and private landscapers to source plants using “Buying Bee-Safe Plants” methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See <https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>)

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Our committee is very proud of the progress we made in the past year, no matter how small it was, we hope it made a difference. As we grow our committee, we hope that more students will learn the importance of the initiatives we are taking and spread the word.



UWSP Bee Campus USA Committee Meeting (Dave Barbier)

Learn More

**Integrated Pest Management Plan:**

<https://www3.uwsp.edu/facsv/Grounds%20Documents/UWSP-IPM%20Information.pdf>

**Recommended Native Plant List:**

<https://p.widencdn.net/tanvm9/NH0936>

**Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:**

<https://pipelakes.org/pipewp/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Wisconsin-Native-Plant-Nurseries.pdf>

<https://www.uwsp.edu/campus-life/sustainability/Sustainability.Office@uwsp.edu>

<https://www.instagram.com/sustain.uwsp>

<https://www.facebook.com/sustainability.uwsp>

