

Bee Campus USA - Butler 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.

8 total In the past year, Butler has converted 3.5 acres of turfgrass into three no mow zones, two native planted gardens, one area also with no mow fescue, continued enhancements of native plants and pollinator habitat on campus farm, and one meadow/prairie planting. These projects were implemented by the operations team with support from the Office of Sustainability and input by faculty in the biology department (all members of the Bee Campus USA committee)

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

7

How many people (staff, volunteers, students, partners, etc.) helped with those projects?

15

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

4

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

152460

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
- Meadow
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement

Education & Outreach

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

Hosted annual Future Farmers of America Career Success tour educating 50 high school students from across the U.S. in sustainable farming, which includes integrated pest management, diversified production to reduce/eliminate chemical usage, and strategic use of native plantings to encourage insect and wildlife diversity. Annual invasive species pull in our natural wooded areas on campus, 42 participants. Both events were by members of the Bee Campus USA committee through their offices/departments.

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

2

How many people attended those events (in total)?

82

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

7

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.

All for-credit courses that, to our knowledge, includes information on pollinators: Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Conservation Biology, Introduction to Food Systems, World of Plants, Gardening for Wellbeing, Ecology and the Natural Environment, Urban Ecology, one first-year seminar, four farm internships and XX pollinator-related internships.

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

9

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

400

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

1

How many participants attended those courses?

2

Policies & Practices

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

As campus moves more toward rewilding, we are focused on using more naturalized areas to minimize the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. Natural plantings are managed through compost additions and reduced irrigation. Campus also eliminated the use of phosphorus in fertilizers.

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

No

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

We recently completed an application to the Clean Water Act Section 319 grants requesting funds to develop an integrated weed and pest management plan in collaboration with our local soil and water conservation district to further reduce the use of landscaping chemicals.

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)**
- **Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied**

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

We need to level-set expectations of our campus community to rethink what a college campus "should" look like through effective engagement and communications.

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

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