

# Bee Campus USA - East Carolina University

Report on 2024



## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

*Please describe pollinator habitat creation or enhancement projects in your community in 2024, and whether your committee hosted them or not.*

5-29-24: Dental Medicine students constructed two “aromatherapy” garden beds outside the patient waiting area in the Ross Hall School of Dental Medicine. These beds are intended to reduce patient anxiety and stress associated with dental care, but some of the plants included are also native, pollinator friendly plants. 3-22-24: Planted raised garden beds, handicap accessible beds, garden towers, decorative landscaping, and indoor hydroponic gardens at the VA Medical Center in Greenville, NC. This project was the first of it’s kind at a VA Medical Clinic.

*How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance in 2024?*

2

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

60

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

500

*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
- Herb garden
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting



4-17-24: Tree Planting and Butterfly Release (photo by Kim Fox)



4-6-24: ECU Sustainability Ball at Greenville Community Orchard (photo by Erica Henry)



10-17-24: Paint a Pollinator Pot w/ SustainabiliBEES (photo by Kim Fox)

## Education & Outreach

*Please describe pollinator conservation events or outreach activities in your community in 2024, indicating whether your committee hosted them or not.*

2-9-24: Hive Inspections Practicum Exam (2) 2-16-24: Honey Harvesting (5) 3-11-24: Sustainability Photo Contest (20)  
 3-22-24: Planted Raised Garden Beds and Towers at VA Clinic (50) 4-1-24: Raising Butterflies Display at Ledonia  
 Wright Cultural Center (150) 4-5-24: Campus Honeybee Package Installation (5) 4-6-24: ECU Sustainability Ball at  
 Greenville Community Orchard (70) 4-17-24: Tree Planting and Butterfly Release (60) 4-13-24: Earth Day of Service at  
 the Greenville Community Garden (30) 4-19-24: Earth Day Festival w/ SustainabiliBEES table and observation hive  
 (300) 5-6-24: Faculty Workshop Guided Tree Trail Tour (14) 8-28-24: Get A Clue Involvement Fair w/  
 SustainabiliBEES Table (300) 10-12-24: ECU Beekeeping School (8) 10-10-24: Grounds Services Staff Webinar  
 Viewing (16) 10-17-24: Paint a Pollinator Pot w/ SustainabiliBEES (30) 10-23-24: Campus Sustainability Day w/  
 SustainabiliBEES Table (300) 10-28-24: Tea with the Bees (40) 11-8-24: Honey Tasting in Todd Dining Hall (30)  
 11-15-24: Honey Tasting in West End Dining Hall (50)

*How many pollinator-related events or outreach activities did you host or help with in 2024 (in total)?*

19

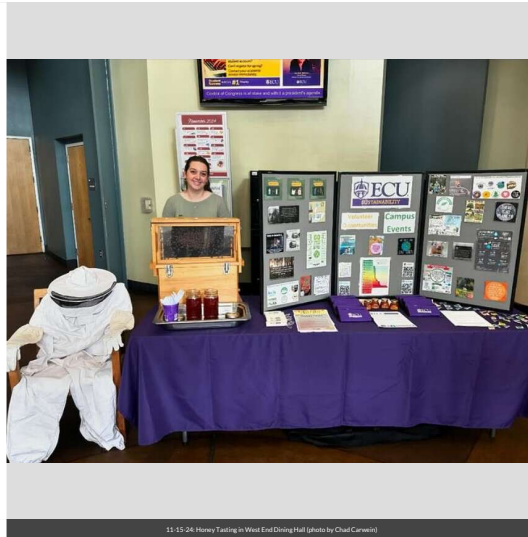
*How many people attended those events (in total)?*

1480

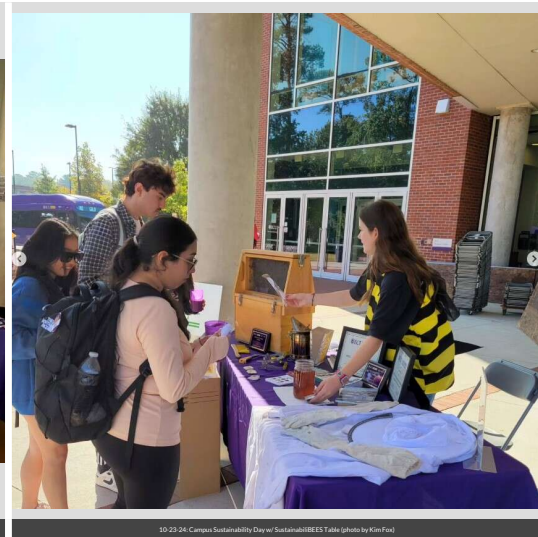
*Number of permanent interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed to date?*



10-28-24 Tea with the Bees (photo by Kim Fox)



11-15-24 Honey Tasting in West End Dining Hall (photo by Chad Carwell)



10-23-24 Campus Sustainability Day w/ SustainabiBEES Table (photo by Kim Fox)

## Curriculum, Continuing Education, & Service Learning

*Please describe the curriculum your campus engaged in 2024, indicating whether it was part of a for-credit course or continuing education.*

The student organization that has done the most work to raise awareness about pollinators and help enhance our campus habitats for pollinators is SustainabiBEES and it is still part of an ongoing Signature Honors Project. This group has really helped to foster a culture of sustainability on campus. Their work has expanded to raise awareness off campus as well. The students in SustainabiBEES have gotten certified at the Beginner Level of Beekeeping and hosted beekeeping school by securing the services of a local Master Beekeeper. They have also spread this knowledge throughout the community of Greenville by participating in Greenville Community Garden and Orchard Workdays and tabling at events like the Tar River Community Science Festival where they interact with and provide education to local youth.

*How many of your continuing education courses included pollinator-related information in 2024?*

1

*How many participants attended those continuing education courses?*

8

*Please describe the service-learning projects your students were engaged in 2024, indicating which, if any, were associated with a course.*

There were two service-learning projects that students participated in during 2022. First, the students in SustainabiliBEES purchased all of the equipment and raised Painted Ladies Butterflies to release on campus. They hosted two events associated with this project. The first event was setting up the butterfly growing kit, naming the caterpillars, and talking about their lifecycle. The second event was a tree planting and butterfly release event during Earth Week in April 2023. Second, students who had taken the Beginning Level Beekeeping classes shadowed the ECU Sustainability Manager during beehive inspections so that they could do their practical and become certified beekeepers.

*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 2024 to enhance pollinator habitat on or off-campus?*

20



2-9-24: Hive Inspections Practicum Exam (photo by Kim Fox)



10-12-24: ECU Beekeeping School (photo by Kim Fox)



4-1-24: Raising Butterflies Display at Ledonia Wright Cultural Center (photo by Kim Fox)

## Policies & Practices

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

As stated in our IPM plan, monitoring landscape for pests and diseases is a constant ongoing process for all Grounds employees. ECU Grounds Services staff also look for beneficial insects that may already be working to control pests. The ECU Grounds crew tries not use pesticides near pollinator habitats as a general practice, especially if pollinators are present in an area or adjacent areas that could be affected by drift. Prevention is the first method of our IPM plan, which includes proper cultural and mechanical methods, proper watering, and use of healthy, pest and disease resistant native plant species.

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

**Not currently**

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

I arranged a webinar viewing for 16 of our ECU Grounds Services staff members to watch a Xerces Society webinar called, "IPM Toolkit" on October 10, 2024. The staff found the webinar interesting and said they could see the benefits of protecting pollinators and agreed to start implementing some of the practices recommended during the training on our Health Sciences Campus.

*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)
- Implemented non-chemical pest prevention and management methods on city or campus grounds
- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use



ECU Grounds Services Staff Viewing Xerces Society "IPM Toolkit" Webinar

*Any lessons learned you would like to share?*

**Not at this time, but we are planning to update our Campus Tree Care Plan and our IPM Plan this summer 2025.**

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Committee Photo



ECU Sustainability Committee with Grounds Subcommittee Members

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Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [ECU IPM Program.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [Pollinator-Friendly Native Plant List.pdf](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Nursery List.pdf](#)

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