

# Bee Campus USA - Farmingdale State College SUNY

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.*

1. Giving Garden enhancements: The campus community garden (called the Giving Garden) was expanded by over 12 beds in 2024! This has resulted in more plants (veggies, fruits, flowers, etc.) for pollinators to munch on. They are seen all over the garden, and now they have more food options because of the recent expansion. 2. Teaching Garden enhancements: FSC has a robust Horticulture program that has its own Teaching Gardens that are used a living laboratory for its students. There is a plethora of plants (both native and non-native) that serve pollinators. There is even a specific section of the garden called the "Sustainable Garden" that uses sustainable methods to even further benefit pollinators.

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

1

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

55

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

2

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

2000

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

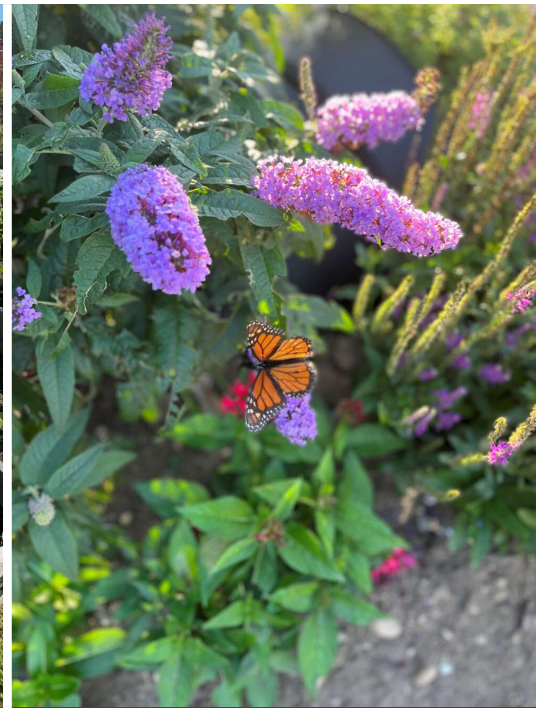
- Flower garden
- Vegetable garden
- Herb garden
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting



Earth Day Tree Planting Event with SGA. Photo credit: Maia Roseval



Honors Students planting in the new Giving Garden beds. Photo credit: Maia Roseval



Butterfly on campus grounds. Photo credit: Maia Roseval

## Education & Outreach

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

1. LIS2 (10 attendees): The Long Island Sustainability Series (LIS2) is an educational series hosted by Farmingdale State College's (FSC) Office for Sustainability in partnership with Suffolk Community College (SCCC). The series is focused on pollution prevention (P2) and how Long Island residents can reduce their environmental impact. The first event of the series focused on Sustainable Landscaping and featured a presentation from Frank Piccininni, Co-Founder of the Long Island Conservancy and Partner and Co-Founder at Spadefoot. 2. Long Island Native Plant Symposium (50+ attendees): The Sustainability Manager gave a poster presentation on the campus Giving Garden and the impacts it has on pollinators. 2. ABB presentation (50 attendees): The campus Sustainability Manager gave a presentation at the annual Accounting, Bursars, & Budget meeting for SUNY. This included all the SUNY employees that works in those respective departments. The presentation included a large segment on biodiversity and habitat protection, including what we are doing for pollinator conservation through our various on-campus gardens. 3. SUNY Sustainability conference presentation about GG (30 attendees): At the 2024 annual SUNY Sustainability Conference, the campus Sustainability Manager gave a 30 minute presentation on our Giving Garden. Once huge component of that Garden (although it's for vegetables) is how much pollinators love it! This is one of our main pollination conservation tactics, and other SUNY schools got to see an example of 4. DIY flower bouquets for earth week (50 attendees): As a part of the campuses "Earth Week" events, the Office for Student Activities hosted a DIY flower bouquet event that featured

native flowers to promote the importance of native plants, pollinator conservation, and plants in general. 5. Earth day festival with wildflower give away (100 attendees): As another part of Earth Week, the Office for Sustainability gave out free pollinator-friendly wildflowers in an efforts to promote the importance of planting plants that positively impact our pollinators. 6. Tree planting for earth week (5 attendees): In celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day, the Office for Sustainability hosted a tree planting in partnership with the Student Government Association (SGA). These trees were planted in front of the President's House and are flowering trees that attract pollinators.

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

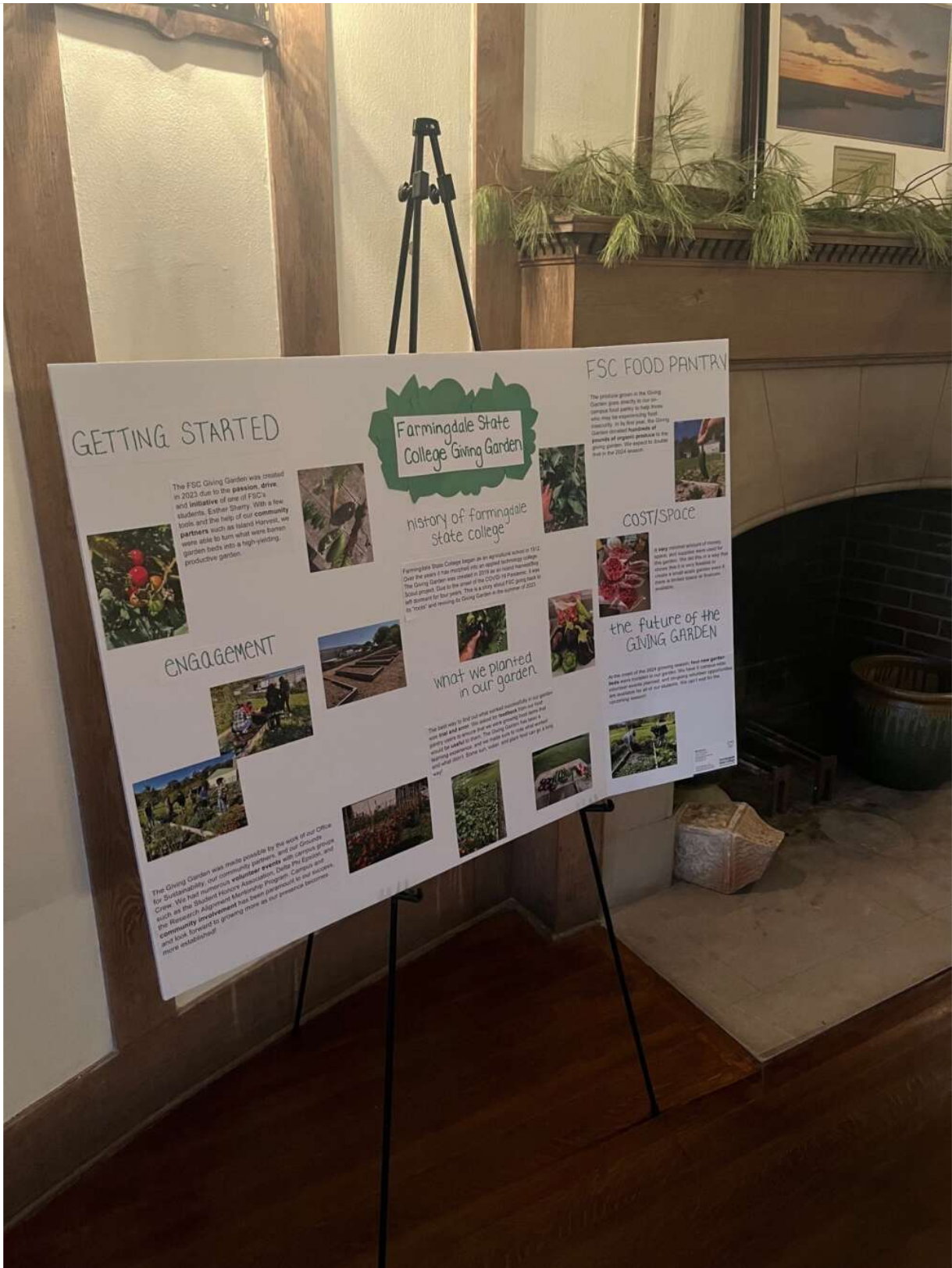
13

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

300

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

2



## GETTING STARTED

The FSC Giving Garden was created in 2023 due to the passion, drive, and initiative of one of FSC's staff members, Esther Shary. With a few students and the help of our community partners such as Island Harvest, we were able to turn what were barren garden beds into a high-yielding, productive garden.



## Farmingdale State College Giving Garden

### history of farmingdale state college

Farmingdale State College began as an agricultural school in 1912. Over the years it has received an applied technology college. The Giving Garden was created in 2023 as an applied technology. The Giving Garden was created in 2023 as an applied technology. It was based around the goal of the 2020-21 plan. It was left vacant for four years. This is a story about FSC's goal to be a leader in helping to Giving Garden in the summer of 2023.



## FSC FOOD PANTRY

The produce grown in the Giving Garden goes directly to our on-campus food pantry to help those who may be experiencing food insecurity. In the first year, the Giving Garden donated hundreds of pounds of produce to the food pantry. We expect to donate more in the 2024 season.



### COST/SPACE

A key concern was the cost of the garden. We did not want to create a large space garden as it costs a lot of money to maintain. We decided to create a small space garden in a brick area in the building.

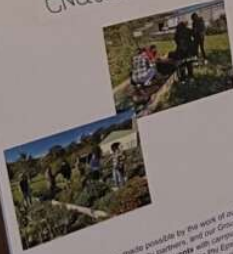


### the future of the GIVING GARDEN

As the result of the 2023 growing season, the Giving Garden beds were expanded to our garden. We have 10 containers, 10 raised beds, and 10 long beds. We are looking for more volunteers to help with the garden. We are looking for more volunteers to help with the garden.



## ENGAGEMENT



The Giving Garden was made possible by the work of our Office for Sustainability, our community partners, and our Grounds Crew. We had numerous volunteer events with campus groups such as the Student Nature Association, Delta Phi Epsilon, and the Research Association. Community involvement has been paramount to our success and look forward to growing more as our semester becomes more established.

### what we planted in our garden

This year we planted a variety of vegetables in our garden. We planted a variety of vegetables in our garden. We planted a variety of vegetables in our garden. We planted a variety of vegetables in our garden. We planted a variety of vegetables in our garden.



## 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.*

**1. Sustainable Gardens: A horticulture class that is offered for credit. 2. Sustainable Food Systems: A STS class that is offered for credit. We host a Honey Sale on campus featuring honey that is cultivated right from our hives on campus!**

*How many of your for-credit courses included pollinator-related information in 2024?*

2

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

50

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

The campus RAM Program, Honors Student Association, and various sororities held volunteer events up at the Giving Garden in 2024. These were led by the Sustainability Manager where she educated the students on the importance of pollinators and the role they play within our food systems. The Honors Program helped build a greenhouse for the garden as well.

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

35





The Honors Program working to build a new greenhouse for the Giving Garden. Phot credit: Maia Roseval

## Policies & Practices

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

The campus Sustainability Manager has begun working closely with the campus grounds manager to ensure that a minimal amount of pesticides are used on campus. Currently, there is very little used (except for the main entrance areas). We are working towards switching even those products to organic in 2025.

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

**Not at this time.**

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

**The Sustainability Manager and her inter attended a webinar of IPM plans with Xerces in 2024.**

*Any lessons learned you would like to share?*

**Applying for grants and/or plant donations (where possible) has been huge for us to continue trying to become a more bee-friendly campus!**

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Committee Photo

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Learn More

**Integrated Pest Management Plan:**

**Recommended Native Plant List:**

**Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:**

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