

# Bee Campus USA - Medical University of South Carolina

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.*

Here is a list of some of the pollinator conservation events and outreach activities we held in 2024: Jan 11: Presented at Magnolia Garden Club – discussed using pollinators in the home landscape Jan 22: Applied for the SC Forestry Commission Urban Food Forest Grant Jan 24: Attended SC Green conference Jan 29: Presented at the Boeing Center for Children’s Staff Meeting where we started discussions for Sensory Garden grants for local public schools Feb 8: Toured Vanderbilt University campus in Nashville, TN to discuss their IPM, tree care and pollinator programs. Feb 22: We started collecting plant material for our new camellia and pollinator garden on Ashley Ave. Started garden design Feb 26 – April 5: Started teaching the College of Medicine Flex Humanities class for 2024. We met weekly to discuss all aspects of MUSC gardens including pollinators. Mar 2: Conducted campus-wide garden Alumni Weekend tours. Mar 10: Attended a native plant workshop at Magnolia Plantation Mar 13: Managed an information table at the Senior Expo in N. Charleston. This event is attended by over 500 people each year. Mar 14: Presented at the quarterly Dept of Surgery Staff and Research forum – discussed garden changes on campus including our pollinator garden Mar 21: Attended Child Life carnival to discuss pollinators Mar 21: Trident Tech Sustainability class annual campus tour Apr 8: Worked on details for the SCFC grant Apr 10 Presented Pocket Urban Farm Updates at College of Health Professions quarterly staff meeting Apr 12: Toured the new greenhouse at Trident Tech Apr 13: Managed a table at the Trident Tech Health Fair Apr 17: Managed a table at the MUSC Earth Day celebration “The Greenest Day” May 20: Hosted Breast Cancer Survivor’s Fit Club – discussed pollinators May 28: Hosted garden tours for the Math and Science charter high school Jun 6: Hosted Prostate Survivor’s Fit Club –discussed pollinators in home landscapes Jun17: Met with Chas Parks Conservancy to discuss Food Forest grant Jul 9: Attended CPC Food Forest Opening Event Jul31: Met with Kiawah Conservancy to discuss their future pollinator garden Aug 7: Started monthly Boeing Sensory Garden Advisory BOD meetings for public schools Sept 4: Presented at MUSC Leadership Institute Meeting Sept 16: Presented at MPS Cycle conference in Charlotte NC Oct 16: Attended American Horticultural Therapy Association annual conference in Raliegh NC Nov 7: Attend SCTrees in Folly Beach, SC

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

6

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

75

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

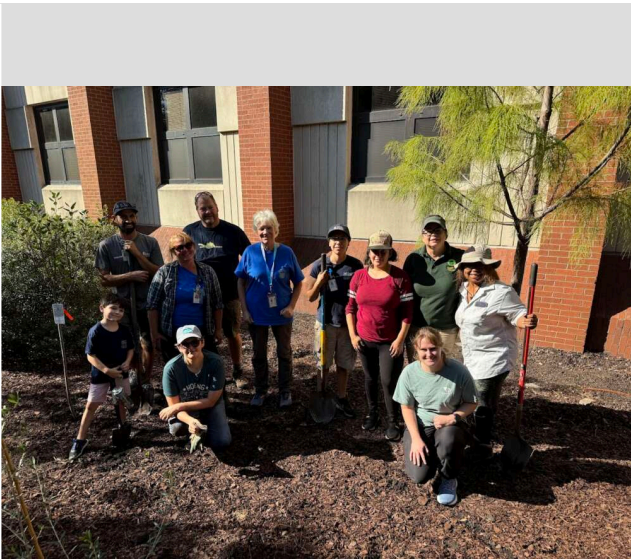
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How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

3000

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
- Herb garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Rain garden/bioswale
- School garden



First Work and Learn at Food Forest R.Smith



Pollinator Garden with Observation Beehive N.Langford



Pollinator Garden N.Langford

## Education & Outreach

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

We spent most of 2024 establishing our new Pocket Urban Farm program and conducting outreach opportunities to MUSC staff and students to make sure they know what is going on and how they can participate. The new pollinator Pocket Urban Farm on the corner of Bee and Bravo Streets is doing well in spite of some underground steam tunnel construction. Our observation beehive is doing well. All the pollinator plants we transplanted from the Urban Farm are thriving. This garden allows for an excellent opportunity for Horticulture Therapy Sessions. We see Breast Cancer Survivors Fit Club and Prostate Cancer Survivors Fit Club in this space monthly. This location is adjacent to the VA Hospital, so we are including them in some of our activities and outreach. The Medicinal Garden is completely restored and is thriving. The adjacent Pocket Urban Farm at the Library is planted with vegetables, herbs and pollinators. We continue to see between 75-100 patients weekly for Horticulture Therapy. Some sessions include pollinator education including honey tasting (when appropriate), pollinator games with photos of foods that need pollinators and those that may not (corn) and other visual aids to teach about the importance of our pollinators. The other smaller Pocket Urban Farms are slowly coming online. We installed a new camellia garden in the fall of 2024. This space is also home to many other pollinators plants. Our biggest project that began in 2024 and is still in progress is our new Food Forest at the Institute of Psychiatry (IOP) on President Street and in the enclosed patient park behind the building. This is a federally funded project managed through the South Carolina Forestry Commission. We were awarded funding in the fall of 2024. We are planting a layered garden including overstory and understory trees, shrubs (pineapple guava), herbaceous, rhizosphere (ginger, turmeric, carrots), soil surface (groundcovers) and a vertical layer (vines). We plan to wrap up this project in May of 2025. So many of the new plants are pollinators.

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

15

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

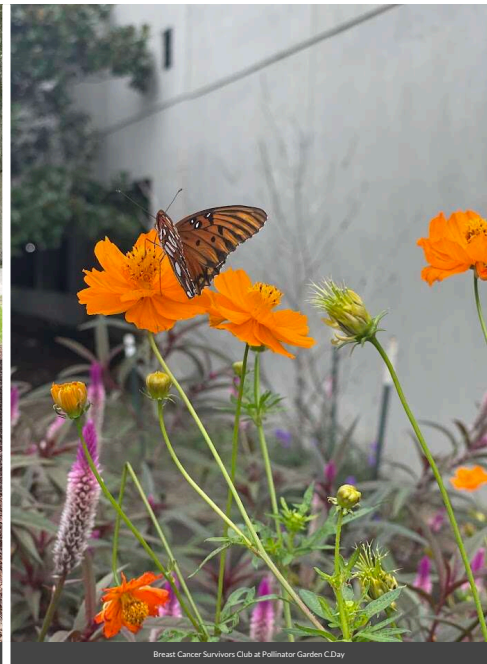
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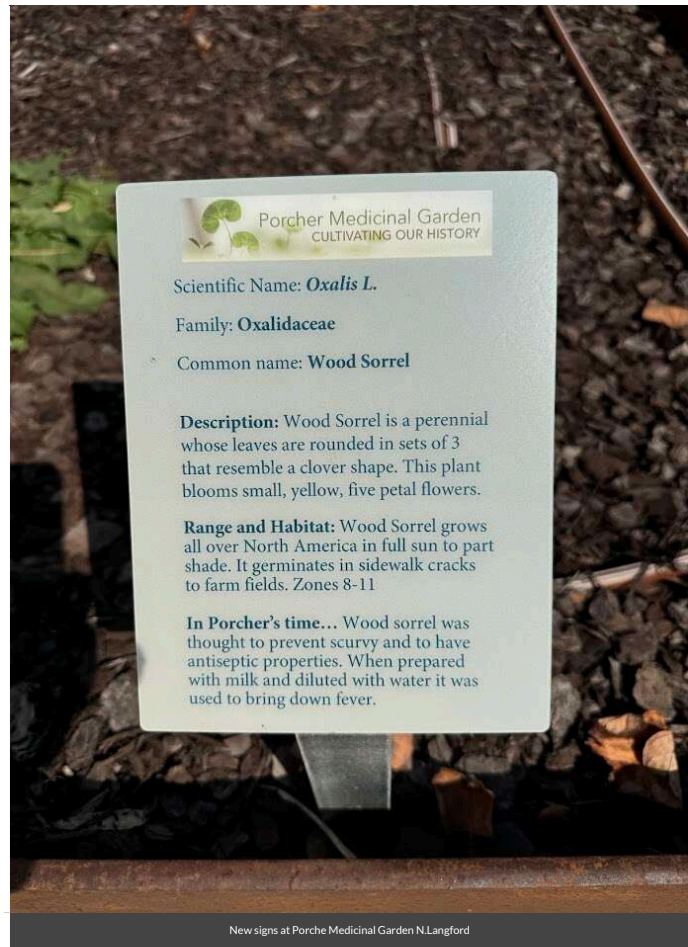
Healing Farms at new Pocket Urban Farm on campus. N.Langford



Ashley Hall Field Trip to learn about Pollinators. N.Langford



Breast Cancer Survivors Club at Pollinator Garden CD Day



New signs at Porche Medicinal Garden N.Langford



Work and Learn sign N.Langford

## 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.*

**Trade shows which include CE courses.**

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

5

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

14

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

5

*How many participants attended those continuing education courses?*

14

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

**See list above.**

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

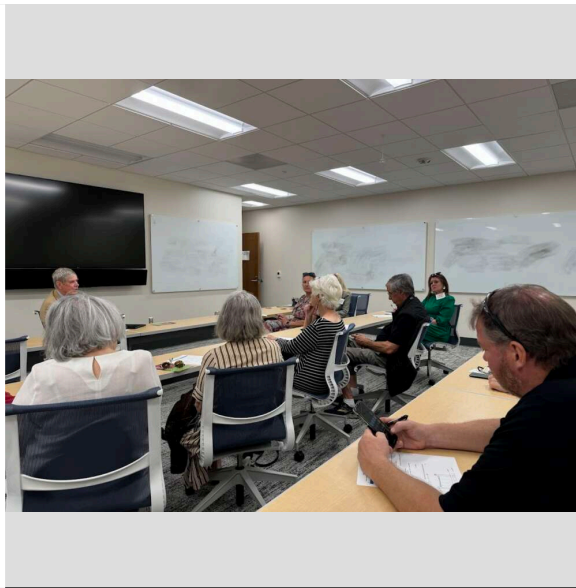
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*How many students participated in service-learning projects in 2024 to enhance pollinator habitat on or off-campus?*

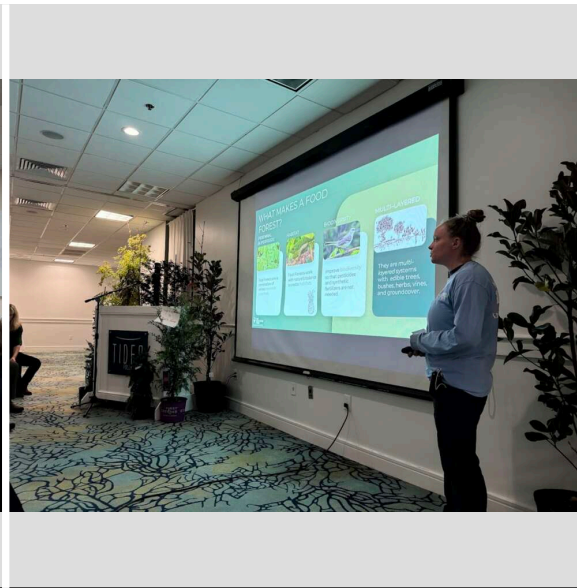
75



MUSC Grounds at Ashley Hall Earth Day With Amanda McNulty R-Smith



Arborist Board Training N.Langford



TreesSC Chus Parks Cons. Food Forest Presentation



MUSC Mt. Pleasant Rooftop Garden Workday N.Langford



Pocket Urban Farm Work and Learn N. Langford



Healing Farms planting event N.Langford

## Policies & Practices

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

**We are adding Pocket Urban Farms where typical pest management becomes IPM and pollinator-friendly.**

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

**Yes**

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

**Yes – we attended workshops to learn latest trends.**

*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
- 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
- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds using “Buying Bee-Safe Plants” methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See <https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>)
- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids



## Re-installing Observation beehive N.Langford

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Grants are complicated and require a lot of computer time.

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### Committee Photo



Grounds Team J Ham

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### Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [bee campus hand out.docx](#)

<https://web.musc.edu/resources/health-and-wellness/arboretum/bee-campus>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://scnps.org/about-the-plants/sc-native-plant-list>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Plant Suppliers.docx](#)

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