

Bee Campus USA - Missouri State 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.

In the Spring of 24 we took an empty mulch bed, that had been just mulch for years, and planted a pollinator wildflower mix in that area. The pollinators loved it and it was quite the change from just being plain mulch. One of the other projects that we completed this past year was with our day of planting, where we had a building that had no landscaping around it and started planting natives around the building. This will be a two-phase project that we will finish this Spring. We did another project to where we removed some dead shrubs around a classroom building and replaced them with perennials. This was a great attraction for this building.

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

4

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

20

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

4

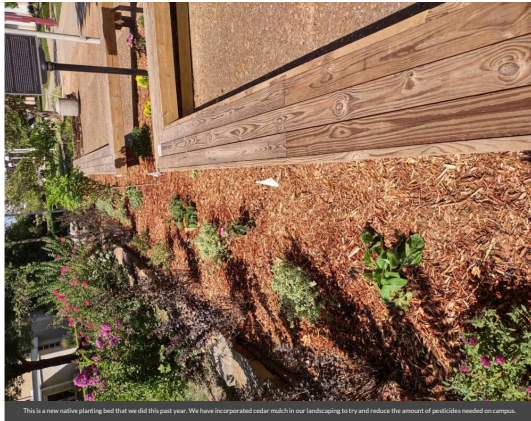
How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

4753

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

- Flower garden
- Orchard
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting

- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting



Education & Outreach

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

Grounds Department went into a college classroom and spoke with a group of students about some of the landscaping practices that we do on the campus. While speaking, we educated them on our practices of switching some of our flower beds over from annual flowers to perennials and native flower beds, while telling them the benefits of this switch. We went to the Agronomy Club and the Horticulture Club and gave them the same speech. We also went to our university staff senate and spoke on what it means to the university to be a part of Bee Campus USA, while trying to recruit new members.

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

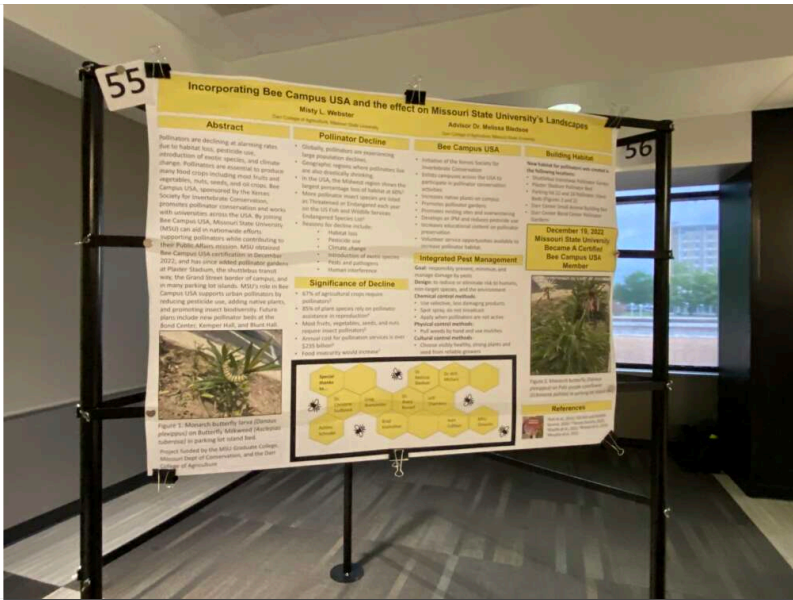
9

How many people attended those events (in total)?

150

Number of temporary interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed in 2024?

10



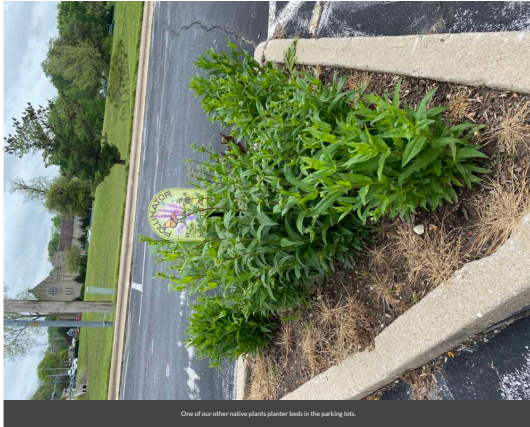
Misty spoke in to a group of students, faculty and staff members about Bee Campus USA and the benefits of it. She also spoke on how our university has incorporated it into our landscaping.



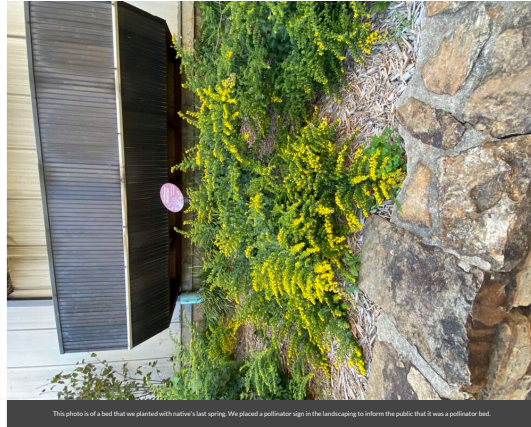
This is a picture of the group of committee members that spoke at a separate presentation on planting in the landscaping and the benefits of it.



We had empty tree planting areas in the middle of the parking lots that were just growing weeds. We took those empty spaces and planted native plants in them to add a little beauty to the area. Pollinators love these areas as well. We did a total of 10 in the parking lots here in Mo.



One of our native plants planter beds in the parking lots.



This photo is of a bed that we planted with native's last spring. We placed a pollinator sign in the landscaping to inform the public that it was a pollinator bed.

Curriculum, Continuing Education, & Service Learning

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

23

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

One of the service-learning projects that we did this past year was hosted a college class for a day to discuss different landscape designs here on campus and how to incorporate native plantings into that landscaping. Typically, we will do this twice a year, once in the Spring semester and once in the Fall semester. One of the other projects that we do is host a group of about 20-30 people that comes through our area and we discuss promoting Bee Campus USA what it means

to us and how we achieved this status for the university. While we have this group here discussing this, we are trying to recruit new members.

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

1

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

17



We joined with the Ag departments Plant Science class to help teach them about native plants and the many benefits that they have for the pollinators.



JOIN US FOR

PLANTING DAY

Join us for a planting day out at the Bond Learning Center! We will be planting native plants for pollinators as part of the Bee Campus USA initiative.

 **Nov 6th & 7th**
2:00 - 6:00 PM

Questions?
Email cherihamilton@missouristate.edu

2401 S Kansas Expressway

We participated in a service learning project with students to plant native plants around one of our Ag buildings.

Policies & Practices

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

We have converted more of our annual flower beds on campus to a more pollinator friendly bed plantings. We have also converted empty mulch beds to native plantings beds on campus. We are using chemicals on the campus when

pollinators are not active, so that it will be less harmful to them. We are pulling more weeds instead of spraying them and when we do spray the weeds, we are using a vinegar solution chemical instead of a glyphosate chemical. We mulch all of our beds in the early Spring providing the pollinators a habitat.

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

We have in plans for next to plant more pollinator-friendly flower beds to help attract the pollinators and reduce pesticides. Also, we have started to plant pest host plants within some of our landscaping to attract the pest and keep off of our other plants.

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

Yes..we participated in MoPrairie Foundation – zoom meeting we also participated in Bee Campus seminars – zoom meeting as well as a seminar put on by the Missouri Department of Conservation that was discussing I.P.M.

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 using “Buying Bee-Safe Plants” methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See <https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>)
- 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>)

Committee Photo



Dr. Bledsoe, Misty Webster, and Jeff Chambers as committee members

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [IPM Bee Campus USA.pdf](#)

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

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

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