

Bee Campus USA - University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

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.

Multiple woodlots and prairies were managed using prescribed burns to reduce invasive species without herbicides and increase species biodiversity. Existing annual beds have been replanted with native perennials.

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?

10

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

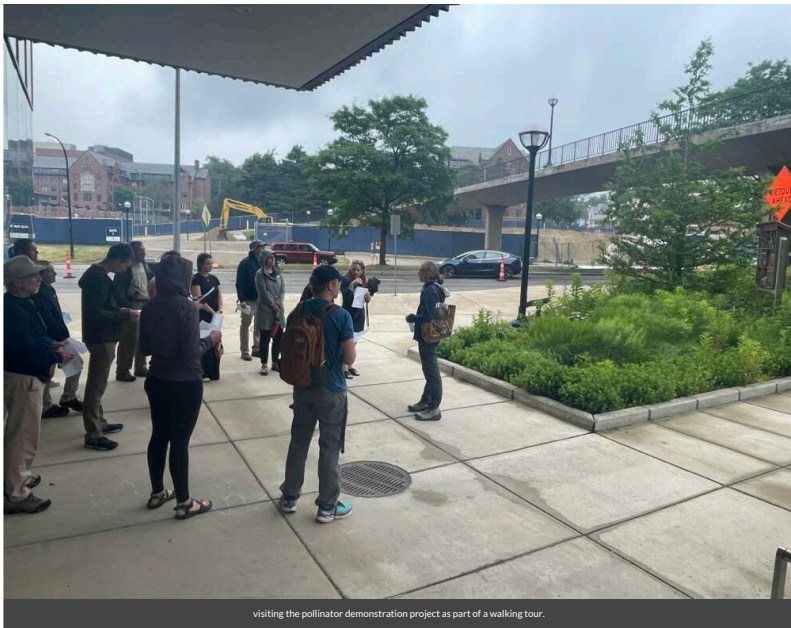
1

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

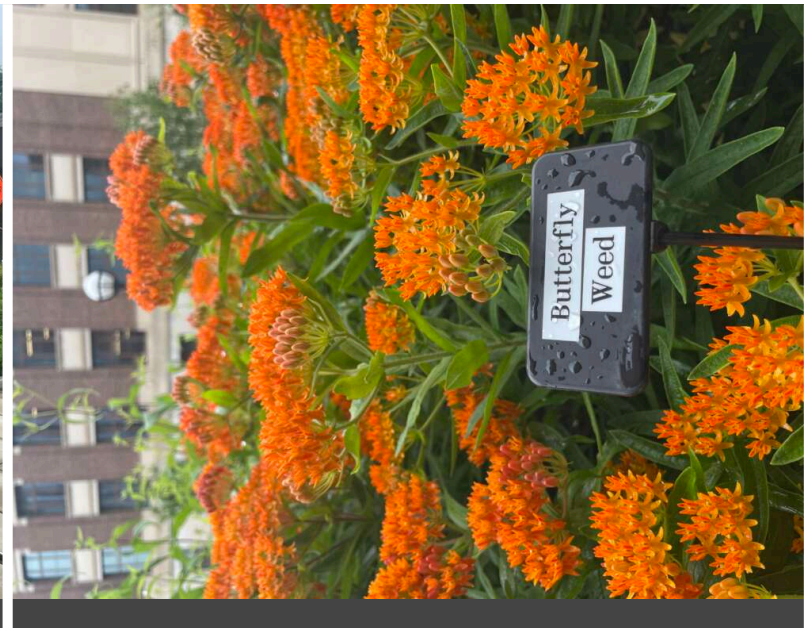
1800

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

- Flower garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Rain garden/bioswale



visiting the pollinator demonstration project as part of a walking tour.



Education & Outreach

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

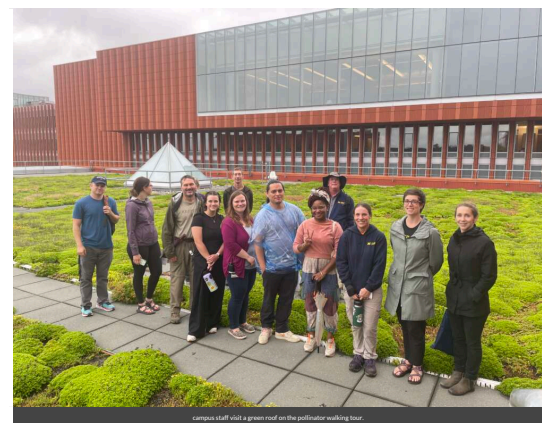
The University of Michigan U-M Bee Campus Committee members hosted multiple walking tours of Central Campus to educate campus community members about university efforts to support pollinators and their habitats, and what individuals can do to support pollinators at home. A Pollinator Podcast was created, highlighting the vital role of pollinators in our food systems and the health of our natural areas. This student-produced podcast interviews U-M staff and faculty to draw attention to the work on campus to integrate pollinator support into campus operations and research, and actions individuals can take to support pollinators. Additionally, multiple tabling sessions were held to inform and engage students, including partnering with the Campus Farm Food Stand to highlight the connection between pollination and healthy food systems.

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

5

How many people attended those events (in total)?

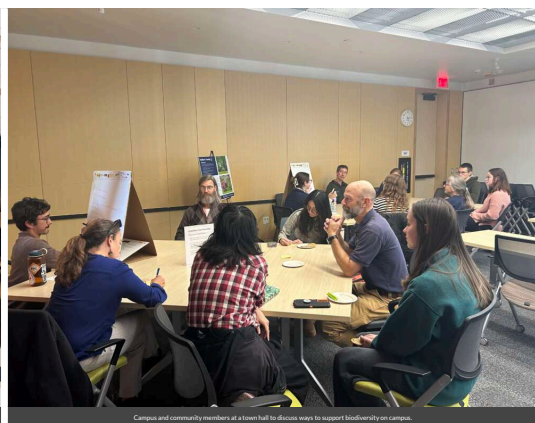
125



Campus staff visit a green roof on the pollinator walking tour.



Tabling to inform campus community members about a new project to replace turf grass with a prairie.



Campus and community members at a town hall to discuss ways to support biodiversity on campus.

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.

We have at least two for-credit courses that include pollinator-related information, including a master's course in habitat/ecology (EAS 509) and a Campus as Sustainability Lab undergraduate course (SLE ENVIRON 245). The Intro ecology students in EAS 509 collected data on pollinators and pollinator habitat across campus in September 2024 using our developed Survey 123 tool within a field lab focused on observing and assessing insect diversity and how it relates to habitat quality. The SLE course (Sustainable Living Experience / Campus as Sustainability Lab) – set up multiple native flower beds on the residential hall grounds to help beautify their living space, provide nutrients and habitat to pollinators, and increase student awareness of pollinator health in our built ecosystem. Other courses may have pollinator habitat/health information included to a lesser degree, including courses in ecology and plant-animal interaction.

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

2

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

160

Policies & Practices

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

The Diag (approx. 40 acres) was established as a synthetic-free chemical zone maintained largely by manual weed removal and organic products.

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

The recently released campus plan 2050 states Climate Action, Sustainability & Environmental Justice as a main planning goal. This specifically includes assessing the current ecosystem services on campus and consider conducting new, comprehensive ecosystem surveys of the Ann Arbor campus. As well as conducting a comprehensive ecological assessment of the campus with the objective of developing an integrative habitat stewardship and climate resilience plan.

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
- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
- Eliminated use of neonicotinoid insecticides on city or campus grounds
- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Building connections across campus to create overlapping goals and track metrics

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<http://planetblue.umich.edu/pollinators>