

Bee Campus USA - University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

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.

Habitat creation and enhancement projects were hosted and supported by members of our committee through affiliated groups UMN Landcare, rather than by the committee itself. These projects involved UMN staff. Approximately 20 people assisted with the design and installation of the various new Offsite Collections Facility plantings. Approximately 10 people with the new plantings outside the Women's' Gymnastics Facility on campus.

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?

30

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

2

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

68673

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
- Roadside/rights of way planting

- School garden
- Other

Education & Outreach

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

UMN Bee Lab staff that are part of our Bee Campus committee attended many pollinator events across the Twin Cities area in 2024. Some of these events included the Minneapolis Monarch Festival, Wakan Tipi Pollinator Festival, the Minnesota State Fair, and regular weekly tabling at the on-campus Farmer's Market. We supported the UMN Entomology Department and tabled at the 2024 Great Minnsect Show that attracted hundreds of people from across the Twin Cities. We also attended UMN's 2024 Sustainability Fair that is hosted early in the fall semester for incoming freshman students. At these events, our committee members used materials from the Bee Squad's Pollinator Education Toolkit. This includes various interactive activities that cover topics like pollinator importance, how they impact our foods, how pollinators are diverse, and pollinator trivia.

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

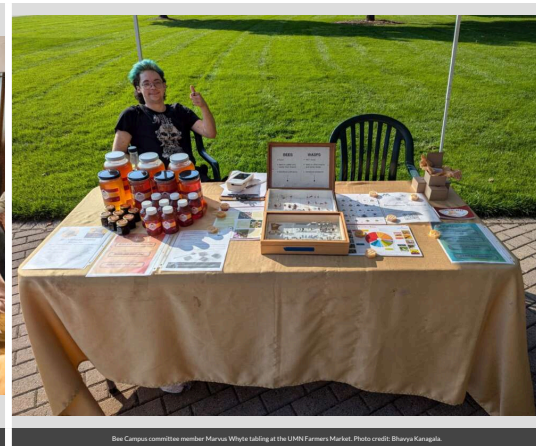
63

How many people attended those events (in total)?

7274

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

2





Permanent signage in the UMN Bee Lab pollinator garden. Details some of the bees of Minnesota that may be seen in the garden. Photo credit: Elise Bernstein



Permanent signage in the UMN Bee Lab garden. Details the Four Actions to Help Pollinators. Photo credit: Elise Bernstein

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.

There were three for-credit courses offered by our university to students that covered pollinators: Got Bees (Freshman Seminar), Art and Ecology, and a Grand Challenge course – Making Sense of Climate Change, Science, Art, and Agency. UMN Bee Lab offers several continuing education courses, mostly available online. This includes our Midwest Bumble Bee ID course, training for the MN Bumble Bee Atlas and Nest Quest participatory science programs, training for our Pollinator Ambassadors volunteer program, and online Beekeeping in the Northern Climates course.

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

3

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

55

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

5

How many participants attended those continuing education courses?

1667



Attendees interacting with the Pollinator Toolkit at a Pollinator Ambassadors training event. Photo credit: Amy Rager.

Policies & Practices

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

The University of Minnesota follows the IPM practices developed by UMN Extension:
<https://extension.umn.edu/how/preventing-pests-your-yard-and-garden>

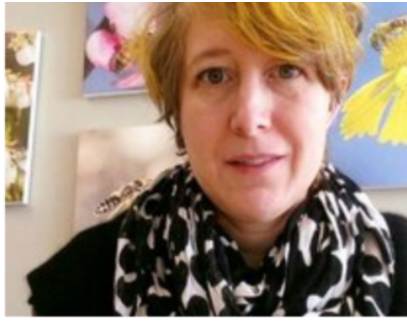
Did your committee participate in any continuing education on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management planning?

No

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

We recently added an amazing student to our committee who has been invaluable to our team. He is deeply connected to the campus community and has helped steer our committee in new directions for 2025.

Committee Photo



University of Minnesota Bee Campus Committee. From top left: Elise Bernstein, Elaine Evans, Thea Evans, Middle right: Marla Spivak, Bottom row, left to right: Marvus Whyte, Tom Ritzer, Christine Baeumler

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [UMN Twin Cities Landcare maintenance IPM practices for pollinator plant areas.docx](https://extension.umn.edu/how/preventing-pests-your-yard-and-garden)

<https://extension.umn.edu/how/preventing-pests-your-yard-and-garden>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UfpemJGEeV72P3muVFqPSuOLVeGj047u/view>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://beelab.umn.edu/help-bees/actions-help-bees/plant-bee-flowers/native-plants>

