

Bee Campus USA - University of Tennessee, Knoxville

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.

The University of TN Gardens has three locations across TN. Each site has pollinator gardens and a demonstration pollinator habitat plot was established (by the committee chair) for a field day event for gardeners and the general public, which had roughly 750 people in attendance. Additionally, demonstration plots were installed (by the committee chair) on a university research and education center to allow for additional educational activities with stakeholders and the public. The Pollinator Week events (led by committee members) included pollinator plant giveaways which resulted in roughly 300 pollinator gardens across the state of TN.

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

300

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

50

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

300

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

5000

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

- Flower garden
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)
- Herb garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- School garden



University of TN field day events offer opportunities for the public to learn about pollinators and how to establish and maintain pollinator habitat. (photo credit: Jennifer Tsuruda)

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 Tennessee, Knoxville held several pollinator educational activities in 2024, including: -Beekeeping classes (led by committee chair) -Field day events on establishing and maintaining pollinator habitats (led by committee chair) -Training for veterinarians (led by committee chair) -Agriculture Day outreach activities for the public (tables led by committee chair and committee members) -Pollinator week events across Tennessee for the public (led and coordinated by committee members) -Training for Master Gardeners on pollinator habitat (led by committee chair) - National Honey Month celebration (led by committee chair) -Training on pollinators and habitat for new and beginning farmers (led by committee chair)

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

12

How many people attended those events (in total)?

1000

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

125

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

60



The University of TN's Pendergrass Agricultural Library hosted a honey tasting event in celebration of national honey month, allowing for additional discussion of the importance of pollinators and pollination. (photo credit: Samantha P. Agard)



The University of TN Institute of Agriculture's Ag Day event offer opportunities for the public to learn about pollinators and pollination. (photo credit: Jennifer Tsunoda)



The University of TN's "Garden Buzz" event to celebrate pollinators provided the public with opportunities to learn more about pollinators and pollination while enjoying insect-pollinated foods. Sweet as community groups were involved and guided pollinator garden tours were offered. Pollinator plant greening resulted in the establishment/enhancement of 300 pollinator gardens across Tennessee. (photo credit: Jennifer Tsunoda)

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.

For-credit: Guest lectures in courses focused on entomology and public health
Continuing education: certificate-based beekeeping classes and intern training for Master Gardeners

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

2

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

75

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

How many participants attended those continuing education courses?

600

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

Service learning projects were offered through programs at the UT Gardens.

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?

5

Policies & Practices

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

We follow and recommend IPM strategies, including planting cover crops to decrease weed and pest insect pressure while also providing floral resources for pollinators. Educational activities also include information about eliminating mosquito breeding grounds to decrease the likelihood of populations that can lead to insecticide sprays. Educational cards explaining how to read pesticide labels and reduce the risk to pollinators have been widely distributed to various stakeholder groups and the public.

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

Unsure.

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

Yes, continuing education opportunities (TN Master Beekeeping Program classes, university field day events, TN Master Gardener trainings) included IPM planning.

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [UTK Bee Campus 2022 IPM Plan.docx](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [UTK Bee Campus 2022 Native Plant List.docx](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [UTK Bee Campus 2022 Native Plant Supplier List.docx](#)