

Bee Campus USA - University of Virginia

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.

A new rooftop garden was added to the new School of Data Science at UVA. In addition to the standard sedum this rooftop garden was planted with various perennials, grasses and shrubs, which should serve as a host area for pollinators. UVA has also undertaken an effort to create more "low mow" areas along banks and roadsides. The areas are mowed once per year and then left to naturalize. The areas are monitored to keep invasives and unwanted plants out. One area, the roadsides of Leonard Sandridge Parkway is approximately 130,000 sq. feet. Other areas include an area next to the John Paul Jones Arena, approximately 15,000 sq feet, and the bank on Emmet St. where a bridge was removed.

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?

120

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

2

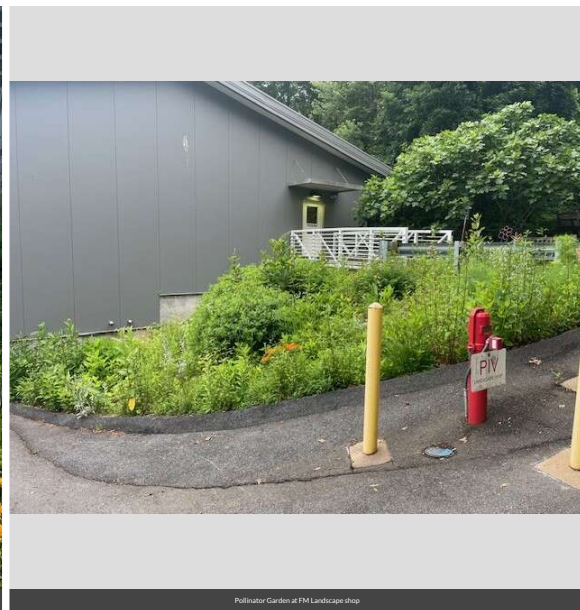
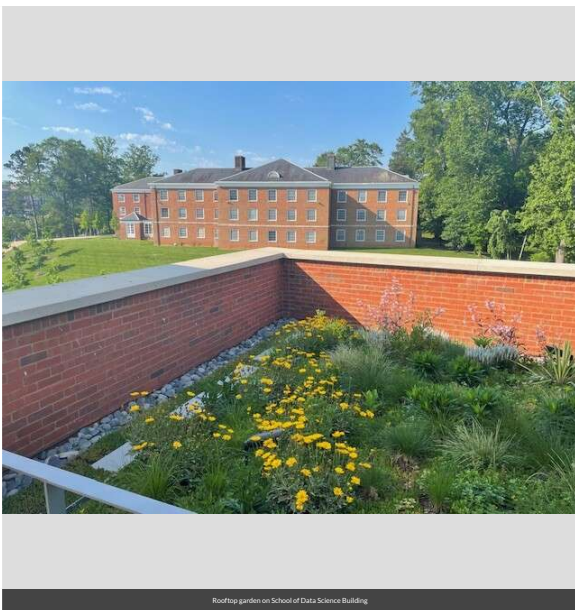
How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

150000

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
- Meadow
- Pollinator-friendly lawn (with flowering clover, dandelions...)

- Herb garden
- Native milkweed planting for monarchs and bees (where appropriate)
- Invasive/exotic plant species removal for habitat improvement
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Rain garden/bioswale
- Roadside/rights of way planting
- Other



Education & Outreach

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

1

How many people attended those events (in total)?

6

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

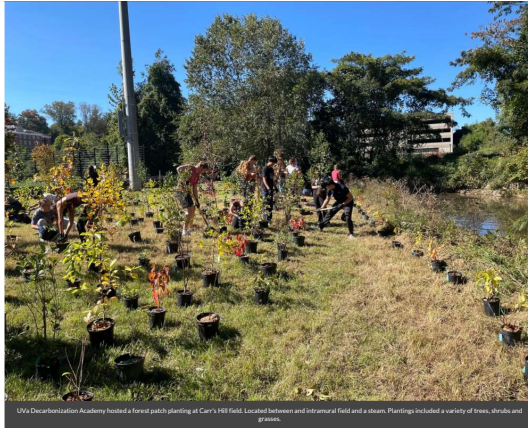
3

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

4



Students with UVA's Decarbonization Academy planted an "visible forest patch" with trees and shrubs that flower and produce edible fruit.



UVA Decarbonization Academy hosted a forest patch planting at Carr's Hill field. Located between and intramural field and a stream. Plantings included a variety of trees, shrubs and grasses.



Haverford College Forest Patch, planted by students, assisted by FM Landscapes staff, and planned by UVA Decarbonization Academy.



Scolia dubia signage on South Lawn turf area.



Leave the Leaves signage, currently have 3 of these signs placed around campus.

Curriculum, Continuing Education, & Service Learning

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

4

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

120

EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE INTERPRETING HABITAT AND "NEW" AESTHETICS

MANAGE AND GROW
prepare the beds - weed and cover crop
installation - initial planting
weed as needed
seed sowing
mowing/trimming

MONITOR AND TRACK
soil testing
insect counts
bird counts
plant inventory and growth measurement

CELEBRATE AND ENGAGE
orientation
community volunteer and student workdays
voting on favorite beds
semester festival

How many butterflies have we seen this year?

Come to Fall Festival to find out and celebrate! this Friday outside Norris House

Gardening Grounds Studio - Julia Moore

Screenshot from a meeting for our "Gardening Grounds" with some student ideas for more signage.

STUDENT-STEWARDED LANDSCAPES TEST PROJECTS TO ESTABLISH NEW STANDARDS "GREEN ACADEMIC" GROUNDS

PRE-PLANTING
Site assessment and planning
Soil testing and amendment
Plant selection and procurement
Site preparation and installation

YEAR 1
Planting and establishment
Watering and maintenance
Monitoring and evaluation
Community engagement and education

YEAR 3
Establishment and maintenance
Evaluation and reporting
Community engagement and education
Future expansion and sustainability

Gardening Grounds Studio
Angelica Graham

Gardening Grounds Studio
Xuanq Yan

Meeting notes from "Gardening Grounds" meeting to collaborate between landscape staff, architecture students, and the Office of the Architect.

Policies & Practices

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

Our Horticultural Specialists and Pest Management contractors are doing more monitoring and scouting of pests, diseases, etc. Determinations are made as to damage thresholds, management options, and actions to be taken. We have engaged Bartlett Tree Experts to do a routine monitoring of the Darden Arboretum, which includes a detailed report of findings, recommendations of whether a treatment is required, and if so using organic or bio-rational products.

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

Members of the Landscape Department participated in a "Gardening Grounds" meeting in connection with the School of Architecture and the Office of the Campus Architect.

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Working to enhance areas to be more pollinator friendly is an ongoing effort. Getting people involved is easier with installations, renovations, etc. The ongoing management and maintenance of the areas is harder to get commitments from student volunteer groups.

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

<http://webapps.albemarle.org/nativePlants/default.aspx>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://vnps.org/native-plant-nursery-list/>

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<https://www.instagram.com/beegroundsuva>
<https://www.facebook.com/BeeGroundsUVA>