



Central Regional Meeting

Bee City USA & Bee Campus USA
The Xerces Society
May 2026



Top: Bryn Scriver (Bee Campus USA – University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI)

Bottom: Nancy Scott (Bee City USA – Bellevue, NE)

Our Agenda

- Important dates
- Free resources
- Eastern Monarch Call to Action
- Central US case studies:
 - Detroit, MI
 - University of Southern Indiana
 - Wichita, KS
 - Ponca City, OK
 - UT Dallas
- Q&A, discussion time

Photo: Bee City USA - Tualatin, OR



Important Dates

beecityusa.org/events

- **May 9:** World Migratory Bird Day
- **May 20:** World Bee Day
- **May 19:** Coffee & Coworking: Finalize Your Renewal Report
- **May 21:** Webinar: How to Help Your Community Become a Bee City or Bee Campus
- **May 31:** Renewal Reports and Fees Due
- **June 16:** Xerces Webinar: Ask the Experts! How Can You Protect Pollinators From Pesticides?
- **June 22-28:** Pollinator Week
- **July 18-26:** Moth Week



Top: Wendy Iles (Hampton, VA). Bottom: University of California Riverside

Free Resources: Online Email beecityusa@xerces.org

- Free Plant Lists & much, much more: xerces.org/publications
- BCUSA bookmarks & brochures (Spanish & English): beecityusa.org

NATIVE PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS & BENEFICIAL INSECTS: Northern Plains

NATIVE PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS & BENEFICIAL INSECTS: Great Lakes

Plant Selection

These plants are attractive to a diversity of pollinators, providing pollen and nectar to bees, butterflies, flies, beetles, wasps, and moths. Some plants provide additional resources as caterpillar host plants or nesting sites and nesting materials for other general nesting bees. Many support specialized bees that require pollen from specific plants to survive and reproduce. Beneficial insects that can help control pests of ornamental and crop plants. These plants are native to this region—domestication of a species is native to your area at plants.usda.gov—and can be used to create or enhance pollinator habitat across rural and urban landscapes.

When purchasing plants, let your local garden center or nursery know you want plant material free of pesticides that may harm pollinators.

Resources

- Pollinator Conservation Resource Center: xerces.org/pollinator-conservation-center
- Bring Back The Pollinators: bringbackthepollinators.org
- Reducing Pesticide Use & Impacts: www.epa.gov/pesticides

| SCIENTIFIC NAME | COMMON NAME | BLOOM | LIFE | FORM | SUN | SOIL | ADDITIONAL DETAILS |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------|------|------|-----|------|--------------------|
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | Purple gird Tiptop | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias speciosa</i> | Milkweed | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> | Common milkweed | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | Purple gird Tiptop | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias speciosa</i> | Milkweed | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> | Common milkweed | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | Purple gird Tiptop | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias speciosa</i> | Milkweed | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> | Common milkweed | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | Purple gird Tiptop | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias speciosa</i> | Milkweed | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> | Common milkweed | Jun-Sep | F | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

XERCES SOCIETY
for Invertebrate Conservation



Free Resources: Online

- Free IPM Plan Toolkit:
beecityusa.org/ipm-plan

- “Low Mow Zone”
printable
lawn sign

TOOLKIT: INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) PLAN




Image: Bee City USA – Westminster, CO: Volunteers remove invasive species. Credit: Liam Cullinane

GUIDE TO USING THIS TOOLKIT

- [Watch the video](#) of our IPM Toolkit webinar from October 2024.
- View the [PDF of slides](#) from our IPM Toolkit webinar from October 2024.

PART I: DEVELOPING YOUR IPM PLAN

Pest management plans for city parks departments, and university campuses vary by the needs and interests of the city/campus. Still, there are a number of straightforward aspects that you can incorporate to make parks and open space more pollinator-friendly.


Next:

- [Part II: IPM Plan Checklist & Template](#)
- [Part III: IPM Plan Examples & Case Studies](#)
- [Part IV: Non-Chemical Management Tools for Outdoor Landscapes](#)

WHAT IS ECOLOGICALLY-RESPONSIBLE IPM?

IPM is a pest management framework that emphasizes prevention and eliminating the underlying cause of pest, weed, and disease issues while minimizing risks to the environment and people. Since there are numerous definitions of IPM we add “ecologically-responsible” to highlight the emphasis on protecting wildlife.

UNDER A COMPREHENSIVE AND VERIFIABLE IPM PLAN:



LOW MOW ZONE

We mow less & let flowers bloom to help feed native bees! Learn more at beecityusa.org

BEE CITY USA AN INITIATIVE OF THE XERCES SOCIETY

BEE CAMPUS USA AN INITIATIVE OF THE XERCES SOCIETY



ZONA DE POCO PODA

¡Cortamos menos el pasto para que las flores crezcan y alimenten a las abejas nativas! Más información en beecityusa.org.

BEE CITY USA AN INITIATIVE OF THE XERCES SOCIETY

BEE CAMPUS USA AN INITIATIVE OF THE XERCES SOCIETY



ZONA DE CORTAR MENOS

Cortamos menos el zacate y dejamos que las flores florezcan para alimentar a las abejas nativas. Aprenda más en beecityusa.org.

BEE CITY USA AN INITIATIVE OF THE XERCES SOCIETY

BEE CAMPUS USA AN INITIATIVE OF THE XERCES SOCIETY

Resources - Coming Soon

May eNews: Bee Friendly Lawns Toolkit (Beyond No Mow May)
How to convert a lawn into habitat, weed & lawn ordinances.

May eNews: Pollinator Week Promo Kit
Theme: Bring Back the Pollinators

Mid 2026: Monarch Call to Action

Late 2026: HOA and condo resources (Xerces)

* xerces.org/publications

Monarch Migration



Spring & Fall

La Migración de la Monarca

Primavera y Otoño

LEGEND / LA LEYENDA

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Overwintering areas | | Zona de invernada |
| Spring breeding areas | | Zona de reproducción de primavera |
| Spring & summer breeding areas | | Zona de reproducción de primavera y verano |
| Summer breeding areas | | Zona de reproducción de verano |
| No breeding area | | Sin zona de reproducción |
| Resident population | | Población residente |
| Potential breeding habitat | | Hábitat no confirmada de reproducción |
| Fall migration | | La migración de otoño |
| Spring migration | | La migración de primavera |
| Unconfirmed migration | | Ruta de migración no confirmada |



NO MILKWEED / SIN CRECIMIENTO DE ALGODONCILLO

NORTHERN LIMIT OF MILKWEED / LÍMITE NORTE DE ALGODONCILLO

WINTER / INVIERNO

SPRING & SUMMER / PRIMAVERA Y VERANO

SUMMER / VERANO

SPRING / PRIMAVERA

PRIMAVERA Y VERANO

RESIDENT POPULATION / POBLACIÓN RESIDENTE

WINTER / INVIERNO

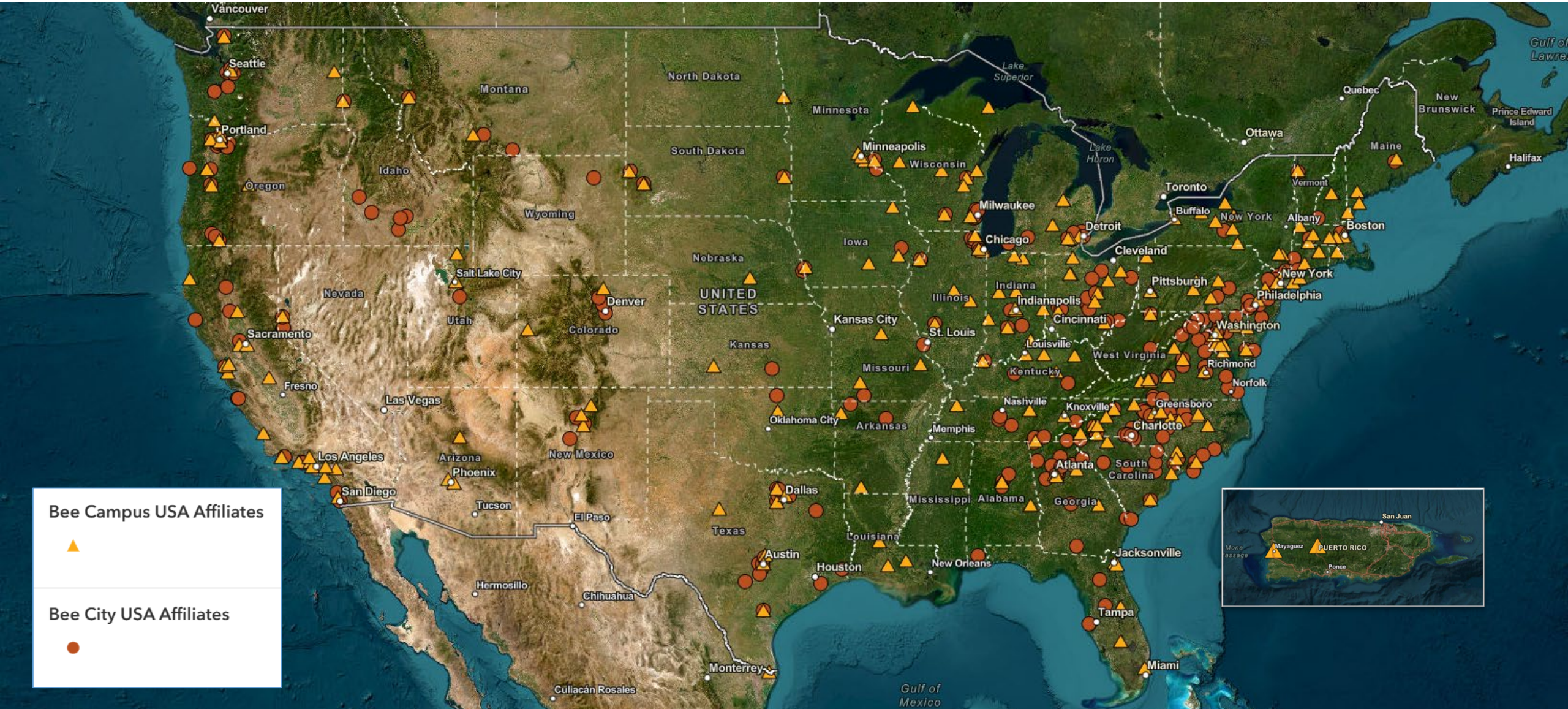


Credit: Top: Jennifer Hopwood. Bottom: Isis Howard - Xerces Society

Monarch Call to Action

1. Plant milkweed for caterpillars
2. Plant nectar for adult butterflies
3. Protect overwintering sites
4. Reduce/Eliminate pesticide use
5. Join a community science project:
 1. Monarch Nectar Plant Database
 2. Western Monarch Milkweed Mapper
6. Spread the word!

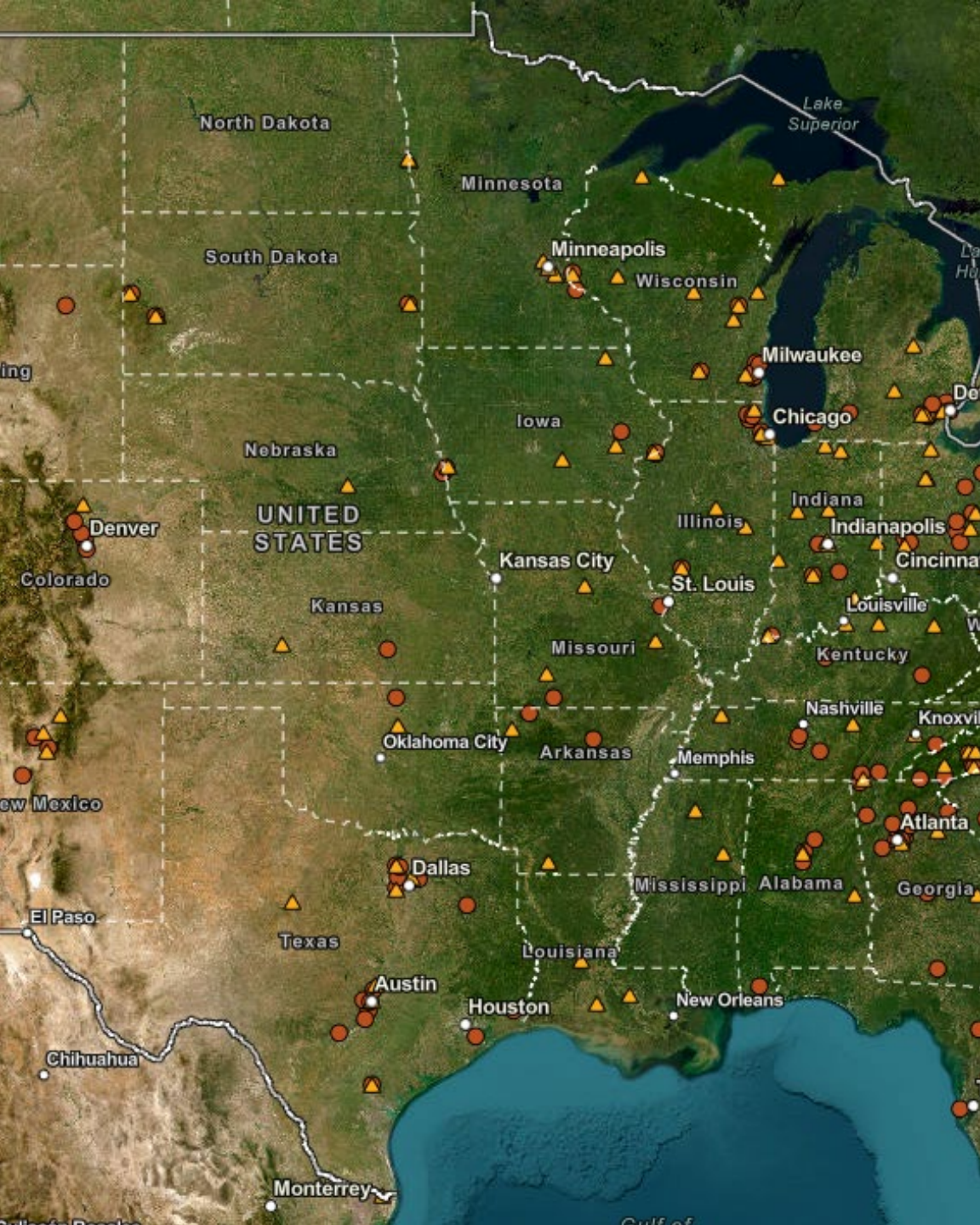
Bee City USA and Bee Campus USA Affiliates



Bee City USA and Bee Campus USA Affiliates



Central BCUSA Affiliates



- Arkansas
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Louisiana
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- South Dakota
- Texas
- Wisconsin

Detroit, MI

Bee City USA since
2024

Presenter:

Timothy Jackson,
Detroit Hives

Topic:

Brightmoor
Botanical Garden



Detroit, MI



Credit: Detroit Hives



Detroit, MI



Credit: Detroit Hives

University of Southern Indiana

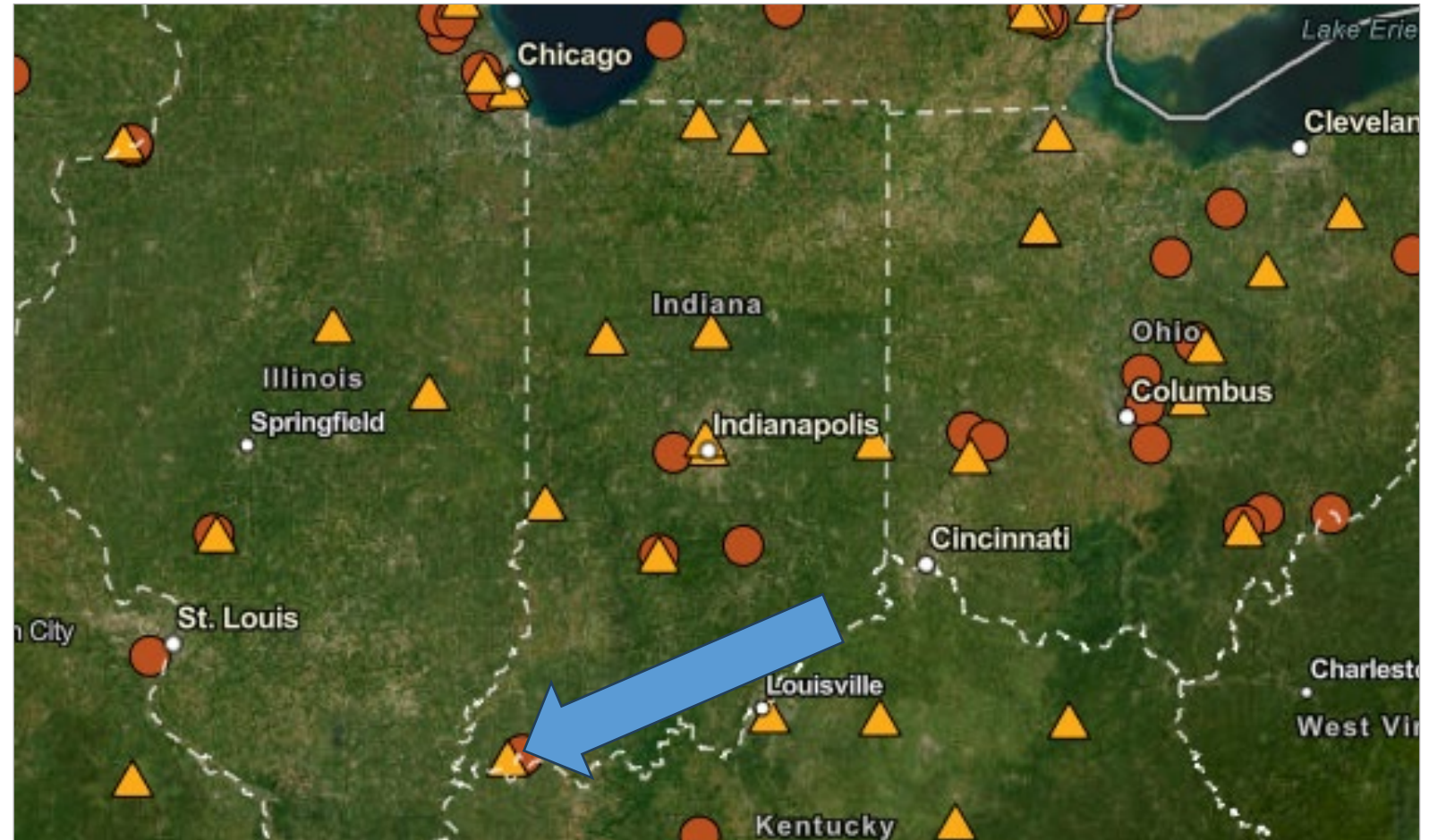
**Bee Campus USA
since 2024**

Presenter:

Dr. Edith Hardcastle
Biology professor

Topic:

Designing for
Pollinators in 3D: A
Hands-On Modeling
Approach





Credit: Edith Hardcastle

University of Southern Indiana

3-D printed native plant tokens used to model pollinator-friendly garden design.

Tokens represent 40 native plant species adapted either to sun or shade. 3-D files created by Theresa Nelson and Susan Sanford with the Land and Water Resources Department of Madison, Wisconsin.

The files are online to download and print. The website also includes pollinator recipe cards that accompany the tokens.

Why we built the models at USI Bee Campus: to help students and community members visualize plant structure, bloom timing, and spatial layering in pollinator habitat design.

University of Southern Indiana

How the tokens work: each 3-D printed piece represents a native species, allowing participants to physically arrange and rearrange plant communities to understand concepts like succession of blooms, density, and foraging pathways.

What we learned: the models created an accessible, tactile way for beginners to grasp ecological design principles, and they sparked deeper conversations about native plants, seasonality, and habitat function.

How other Bee Campuses can adapt the idea: the modeling workshop can pair with winter sowing demonstration, seed swaps, or campus garden planning, depending on the season.



Credit: Edith Hardcastle

Wichita, KS

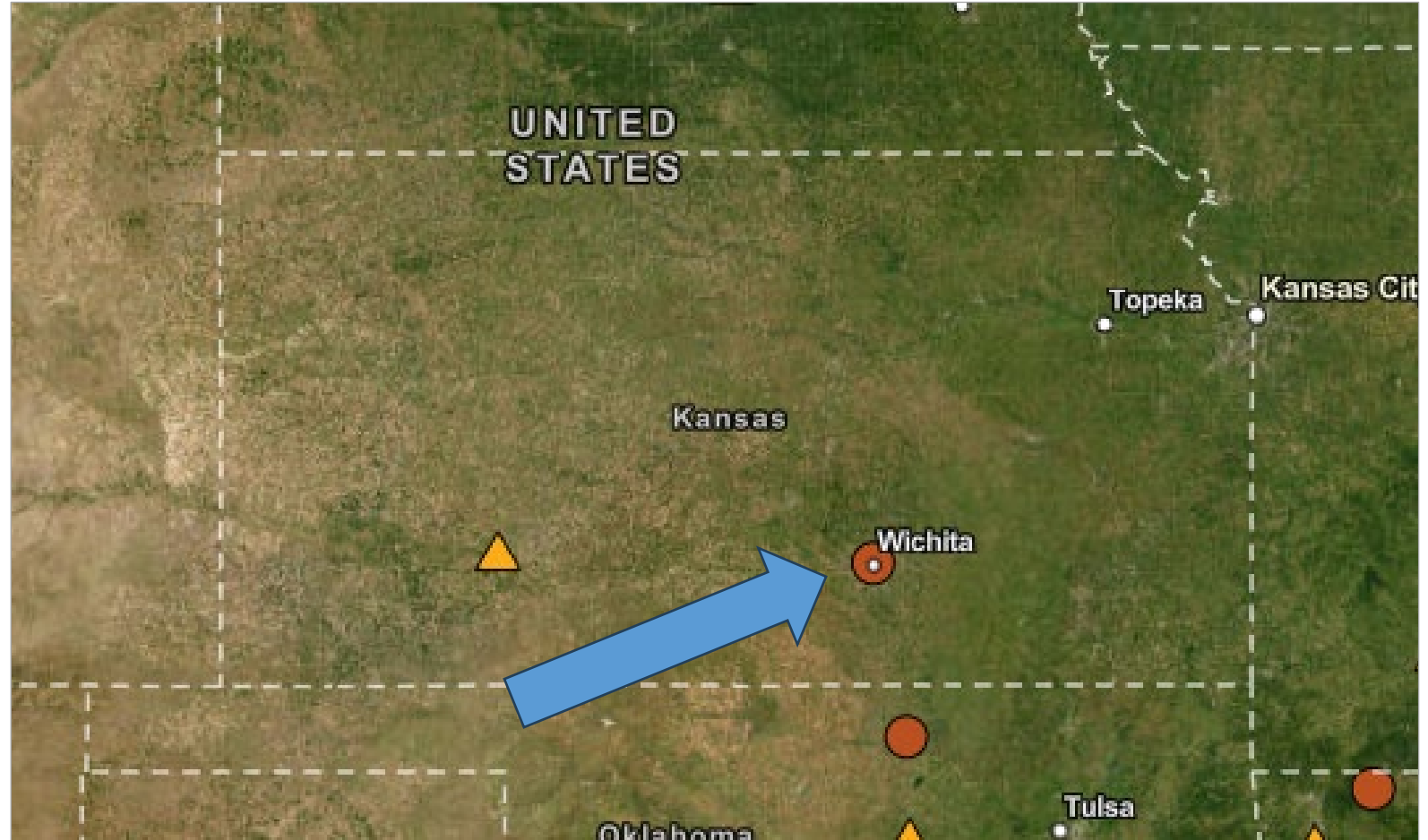
Bee City USA since
2023

Presenter:

Nicole Brown
Co-Founder,
Grassland Groupies

Topic:

ICT Bee Fest



Wichita, KS



Our largest event of the year, ICT Bee Fest is a free come-and-go event in celebration of native pollinators and the prairie where attendees can learn more about native plant gardening and how to help conserve pollinators.

Attendees can practice bug-netting, pet a (male and stinger-less!) fuzzy bumble bee, collect free seeds, and browse plant sellers to bring a piece of the prairie home.

Live music, art and garden decor made by local artists, and crafts for all ages rounds out a peaceful, fun-filled event.



Credit: Doug Stice

Discussion Time



Top (L to R): Council Bluffs, IA Public Library; Susan Ammons; Bee City USA – Havre de Grace, MD
Bottom: L to R): Bee City USA – Beaumont, TX; Carol Carmons; Bee City USA – Decatur, GA