

Bee Campus USA - East Georgia State College

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.

Committee members enhanced the campus Wildflower Pollinator Garden by removing unwanted grass and adding new pollinator-friendly plants. Committee members were also involved in the planting of a *Nyssa sylvatica* (Black Gum Tupelo tree) during an Arbor Day event. In addition, committee members and EGSC Beekeeping Club students participated in a Garden Club Community event to promote pollinator awareness. Committee member, and Georgia Youth Science and Technology Center director, Erin Youmans, applied for and received a Loblolly pine "moon tree" seedling for the East Georgia State College campus. A moon tree is grown from seeds that traveled over 268,000 miles from Earth in 2022 on NASA's Artemis I mission. EGSC is honored to be among the first group of recipients of trees grown from these seeds!

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?

20

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

3

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

300

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

- Flower garden
- Herb garden
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- School garden



Education & Outreach

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

Bee Campus Committee members and EGSC Beekeeping Club students hosted the campus's annual community honey extraction event where people of all ages came to learn more about honeybees, pollinators, and help extract honey harvested from the campus beehives. A committee member also took a honey extractor to a local retirement community to do a honey extraction and talk to residents about pollinators. EGSC students, along with committee members visited multiple schools to read to children about pollinators, and do pollinator-educational activities with them. In addition, a Halloween Trunk or Treat event with a pollinator theme was held by EGSC students. Student members of the EGSC Beekeeping Club learned how to install packages of honeybees themselves in the college apiary.

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)?

1200

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

3



East Georgia State College Beekeeping Club student inspection a campus hive. Photo by Kaitlyn Moore.



Community volunteers learning how to extract honey at East Georgia State College. Photo by Casey Fountain.



Paul Czerwicz (left) and Erin Youmans (right) talking to 5th-grade students about honeybees and pollinators. Photo by Harley Smith.

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.

EGSC offers a variety of introductory biology courses, both for STEM majors and non-STEM majors, as well as integrated science courses for nonmajors. All of these courses include sections related to the environment, pollinators, and conservation. The college also maintains a campus apiary used for educating student, faculty, and staff members of the Beekeeping Club, as well as community members, about pollinators and habitat protection.

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

Student members of the East Georgia State College Beekeeping Club participated in many service-learning projects in 2024. While not part of a structured course, these students learned more about beekeeping and pollinators while involved in community outreach events. For example, students instructed community members of all ages on how to uncap, extract, and bottle honey during the campus's annual honey extraction event. Club members also visited local schools to read pollinator books to kids, or assisted in butterfly life-cycle activities. While doing this, EGSC students

learned more about pollinators themselves, as well as instructing others about their importance.

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

2

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

12



East Georgia State College Beekeeping Club student, Brianna Wilder, reading and talking to primary school students about pollinators. Photo by Paul Carpenter.



Beekeeping Club student, Daniela Carreira (right), showing a community member how to manage hives. Photo by Paul Carpenter.



Beekeeping Club student, Brian Pinister (center) helping 5th grade students learn about butterfly life cycles. Photo by Paul Carpenter.

Policies & Practices

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

Nothing unique in 2024.

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

Nothing unique in 2024.

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

Nothing unique in 2024.

Please check actions you have taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly.

- Implemented or maintained a written IPM plan
- Only use pesticides as a last resort within the 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)
- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use

Any lessons learned you would like to share?

Always seek out local groups for financial assistance and volunteers!

Committee Photo

Learn More

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

<https://www.ega.edu/about/sustainability/bee-campus/integrated-pest-plan.html>

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://www.ega.edu/about/sustainability/bee-campus/pollinator-friendly-plants.html>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

<https://botgarden.uga.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Recommended-Native-Plant-Nurseries-List-GNPI-SBG-June-2025-1.pdf>

<https://www.ega.edu/about/sustainability/bee-campus/index.html>

cerpovicz@ega.edu