Bee Campus USA - Agnes Scott College

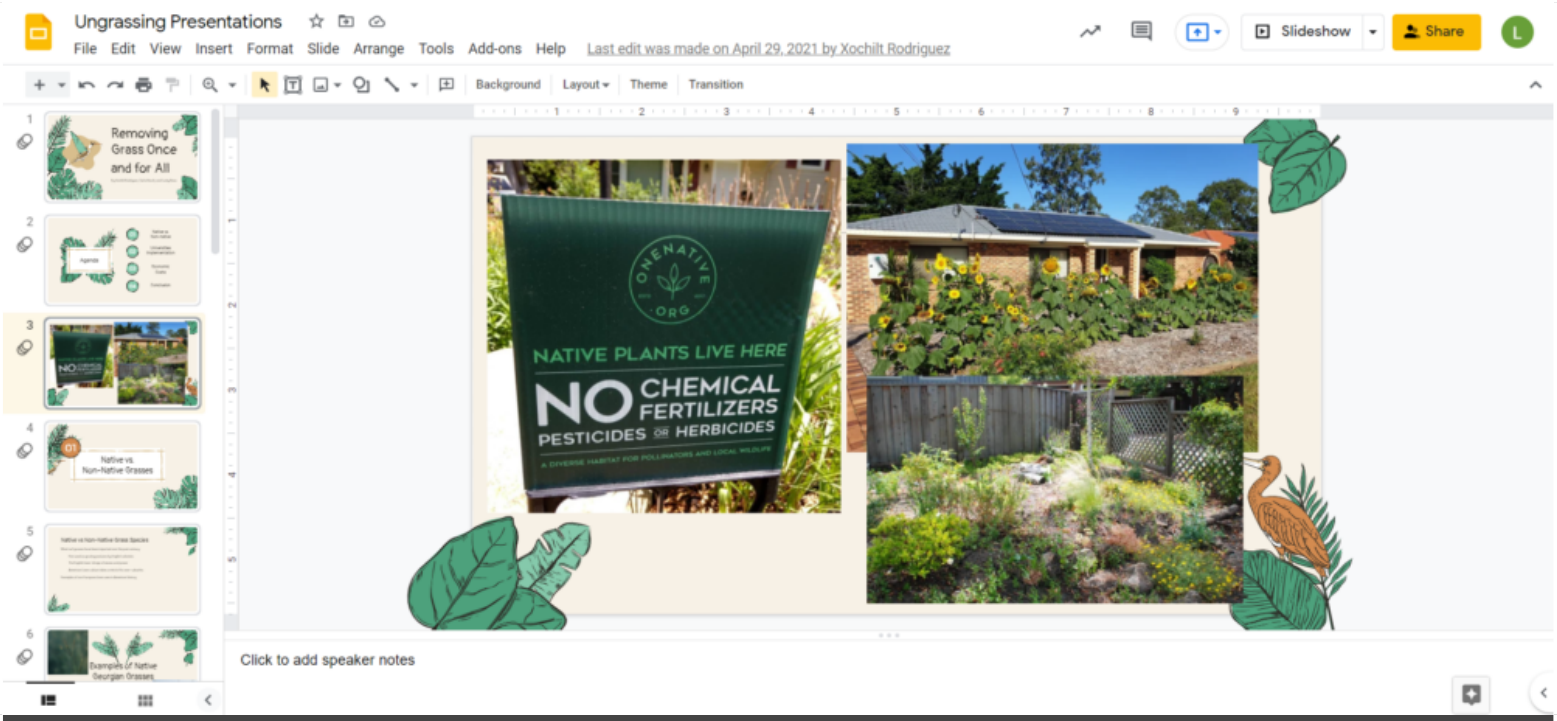
Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Education & Outreach

Courses & Continuing Education

For-credit course Religion & Ecology assigned a practicum for students to present on ecological issues that they care about. A group of three students decided to research and present on ungrassing: a movement that aims to remove turf and English grasses that are perpetuated by lawn culture and replace them with more sustainable and environmentally-friendly options, such as xeriscaping and native grasses. The students noted that fertilizer, pesticides, and herbicides that are used to encourage the growth of vibrant, green lawns contribute to chemical runoff and algae blooms. By incorporating local native elements to lawns, lawns are turned into an ecosystem that is suitable for local fauna, therefore encouraging local pollinators to come. Since people who participate in ungrassing do not condone the usage of fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides on their native grasses, pollinators are more able to find suitable, healthy food, therefore encouraging pollinators to continue to visit these sites. The three students who presented on the ungrassing movement also encouraged ungrassing on university campuses (since universities are known to perpetuate the idea of having wide, open spaces of green turf grass for aesthetic and leisure purposes), and asked students to support ungrassing as a sustainability goal for their university. While this movement has remained underground so to speak, there are still students who are in support of the ungrassing movement on this college's campus.



Ungrassing Presentation: three REL210 students presented on the harms of turf grass and the benefits of planting native grasses instead. Native grasses and plants invite local species of fauna, including pollinators.

Service-Learning

We did clean up of Audubon site and surrounding campus by removing invasive plants and educating students on the importance of working in this area. By removing plants such as kudzu, privit, and english ivy we were able to replant in the area with native pollinator plants such as serviceberry, eastern redbud, and blueberry bushes. This has all been planted in the Audubon site towards the back of our campus.

The image above is picture of student putting up birdhouses in the Audubon Site.

The image below is a picture after a morning of volunteering in Audubon site. Clearing up english ivy and privit.

Educational Signage

This signage was provided for us from you all's organization. It used to be displayed around our campus community pollinator garden, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic has been taken down after falling over. We plan to reinstate the signage outside of the pollinator garden once it is repaired.

Making the World Safer for Pollinators
Bee Campus USA™
One Campus at a Time
An Initiative of the Xerces Society

XERCES SOCIETY
for Invertebrate Conservation

Signage from Xerces Society

Policies & Practices

Through our current IPM we have avoided use of pesticides in designated pollinator habitat and other sensitive sites (except when targeted herbicide use is deemed the best option for invasive or noxious weed management). Implemented non-chemical pest prevention and management methods in areas such as our pollinator/demonstration garden.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: Agnes Scott College IPM.docx
https://www.agnesscott.edu/sustainability/landscape/agnes-scott-college-ipm-draft.pdf
Recommended Native Plant List:
https://www.agnesscott.edu/sustainability/landscape/campus-pollinator-habitat-plan.pdf
Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:
https://www.agnesscott.edu/sustainability/landscape/campus-pollinator-habitat-plan.pdf

Learn More

We didn't have a whole group photo due to covid but here are two committee members bringing the new bees to campus.