

Bee Campus USA - College of Lake County

Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

The Campus Farm, which is managed organically, encompasses 1.5 acres, includes vegetables, herbs, berry shrubs, and flowers. College natural areas managed as wetland include 32.7 acres, prairie 8.6 acres, grassland 12.1 acres, and woodland 5.8 acres. CLC conducted a controlled burn of the 8.6-acre prairie in spring 2021. The College is in the process of retrofitting its bioswales with native grasses, sedges and rushes. Past attempts at establishing a combination of graminoids and forbs from seed were unsuccessful.



Summer Tour of Campus Farm, with vegetables, herbs and flowers



Campus Bioswale Enhancement in 2021

Education & Outreach

CLC provides a variety of opportunities for students and community members to get involved in educational community service events to learn about pollinators, native plants and beekeeping. 12 volunteers joined 4 staff to conduct a prescribed burn of the 8.6-acre prairie. 35 volunteers helped to place 35 native trees and 33 native shrubs in observance of Arbor Day. CLC hosted 2 groups visiting over the summer and a holiday honey candle and moisturizer making event in December 2021. 2 community member volunteers joined staff last summer to help with tending to the hives in the apiary.





Spring 2021 Prairie Burn



Ed Popelka at the apiary

Courses & Continuing Education

5,262 were enrolled in 269 classes that include General Biology, Principles of Biology, Environmental Biology, General Botany, and all of those in the Horticulture Department.





Biology Class in the field studying prairie biodiversity

Service-Learning

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Spring Tree Planting Volunteers 2021

Educational Signage

CLC hosts 39 interpretative signage across the campus with its Living Lab Trail. One feature sign provides information about the campus apiary and explains about the value of honey bees and other pollinators for our food supply. Signs highlighting natural areas such as the prairie and wetlands and those at the campus farm also reference the benefits of pollinators. You can see below how the natural areas of Prairie and Wetland fit with the Campus Farm and other sustainable features on CLC's campus. The Living Lab Trail provides visitors to campus to explore the campus, experience wellness and to learn about how sustainable features such as the farm or apiary benefit the environment, connect with education at the college and can lead to careers.



Living Lab Trail Site Map



Wetland Feature Sign



Apiary Feature Sign



Policies & Practices

CLC manages its grounds 105 acres of turf grass and 66 acres combined of wetlands, prairie, and woodland natural areas using integrated pest management practices. The College of Lake County has been working to reduce its applications of fertilizers and pesticides, in accordance with its Integrated Pest Management Plan, contained within the Landscape Management Plan. In the past 10 years, CLC has reduced lawn chemical applications, from 4 regular applications a year to only as needed and mostly just in higher visibility locations. The Grounds Department has purchases new equipment for efficient herbicide and fertilizer application in high priority areas for visual impact. The new equipment further reduces the amounts of chemical application from previous practices with the older equipment. Herbicides and fertilizers have been eliminated from turf areas around the Horticulture Building, including the arboretum. The Campus Farm is managed organically without any synthetic fertilizers or pesticides. The Arboretum is adjacent to the farm and is managed without pesticides.

Integrated Pest Management Plan: [CLC Integrated Pest Mgmt Plan.docx](#)

Recommended Native Plant List: [Plant Species Appendices E and F.docx](#)

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List: [Land mgmt & Native Plant Suppliers.docx](#)

Learn More

<https://www.clcillinois.edu/aboutclc/who-we-are/green-initiatives>
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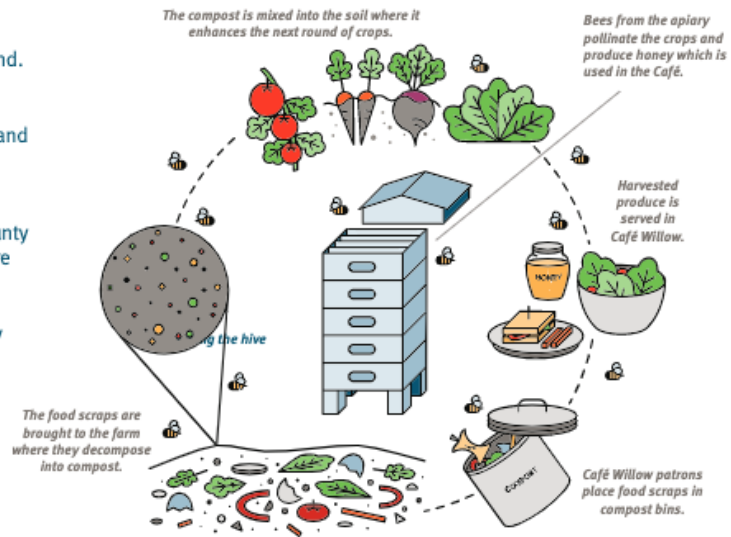
<https://www.facebook.com/gosustainableclc>



Campus Farm

Tomatoes are not always perfectly round. Heirloom tomatoes may be ribbed, bulbous, or pear-shaped, and grow in many colors including purple, orange and green striped.

There are nearly 350 farms in Lake County covering 30,000 acres and selling more than \$35,000,000 worth of products each year. In Illinois, 97 percent of farms are owned by individuals, family partnerships or family corporations.



Campus Farm Feature Sign

