

# Bee Campus USA - University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

Report on 2021



## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Our habitat creation had to get creative given all of the stresses of the COVID-19 pandemic. We handed out free native pollinator flower seed packets that were collected directly from plants on campus, encouraging students to take them and plant them to create their own pollinator habitat. We look forward to our opportunities to enhance pollinator health and habitat more directly in the future!





Native pollinator plant seed packets that were handed out to students for free in April 2021.

## Education & Outreach

In 2021, our committee hosted two education and outreach events within the constraints that the COVID-19 pandemic created. The first was a “Pollinator Pop-up Museum” on Earth Day, which was a temporary display of insect pollinator specimens with microscopes provided for viewing up close, along with educational materials about native pollinator plants. At this event, we also handed out free flower seed packets which were collected from native pollinator-friendly plants on campus by our campus gardener. This event served as an important opportunity to raise awareness of our committee,



because it was the first in-person event we were able to put on. It resulted in increased interest from students and raised the amount of student representation on our committee. The second event that we hosted was a native pollinator plant scavenger hunt during Welcome Week, the week when new students move in and begin exploring campus for the first time. This event was targeted specifically at new students to get them thinking about the pollinators in their environment. Additionally, in May 2021, the mayor of Stevens Point proposed city participation in No Mow May, which resulted in media coverage in the local news. Our committee chair was asked to provide an interview about simple ways to protect pollinators, which educated members of the community.



UW-Stevens Point student viewing butterfly specimens through a microscope at our Pollinator Pop-up Museum on Earth Day 2021.



UW-Stevens Point students engaging in our Pollinator Pop-up Museum on Earth Day 2021.



UW-Stevens Point students viewing pollinator specimens at our Pollinator Pop-up Museum on Earth Day 2021.

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## Courses & Continuing Education

Our university offered over 20 for-credit courses that included pollinator-related information in 2021, including Plant Physiology, Plant Ecology, General Entomology, Ecology of Foods, Forest Entomology, Plant Resources and Humans, and more. We also offered two pollinator-related continuing education lectures: Pollinators in Peril, and The Marvelous Monarch.



## Pollinators in Peril



Join Biology Professor Laura Lee for a look at the pollinators in peril. In this program, learn about pollinator biology; who are the biggest pollinators, how do they benefit plants, and how do they benefit people? We will then discuss problems faced by pollinators due to human activity, and ways that we can help populations recover.

Lecture description for UW-Stevens Point Continuing Education's program, Pollinators in Peril.



Student project for UW-Stevens Point's course, Forest Entomology.

## Service-Learning

We were unfortunately unable to host any service-learning projects in 2021, but we are very excited about the opportunities we have to do so in the future.

## Educational Signage

We were unable to install permanent signage in 2021, but we do have signage that will be installed once the ground thaws and the committee has identified the best location for it.



## Policies & Practices

Over the past several years, the amount of pesticides that the Grounds Work Unit utilizes has been reduced to 2 products, a reduction of close to 90%. They also have chosen a student weeding staff vs. pesticides for all berms and flower beds. As the Grounds staff has learned to become more eco-friendly, the amount of applications of pesticides has greatly reduced. The UWSP Facility Services Grounds Work Unit also recently purchased a Steam Weeder with Green Fund resources. The Steam Weeder looks like a vacuum cleaner with a long hose that superheats water up to 250 degrees. The saturated steam kills weeds by bursting plant cells, without frying woody mulch like flame weeding does. This machine uses a unique combination of boiling water and saturated steam at low pressure. When weeds are hit, they are cooked instantly, leaving behind a chemical-free mulch for soil organisms to feed on. As a result, the soil health improves over time.

### Integrated Pest Management Plan:

### Recommended Native Plant List:

### Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:





UW-Stevens Point Grounds Unit's new pesticide-free Steam Weeder.



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