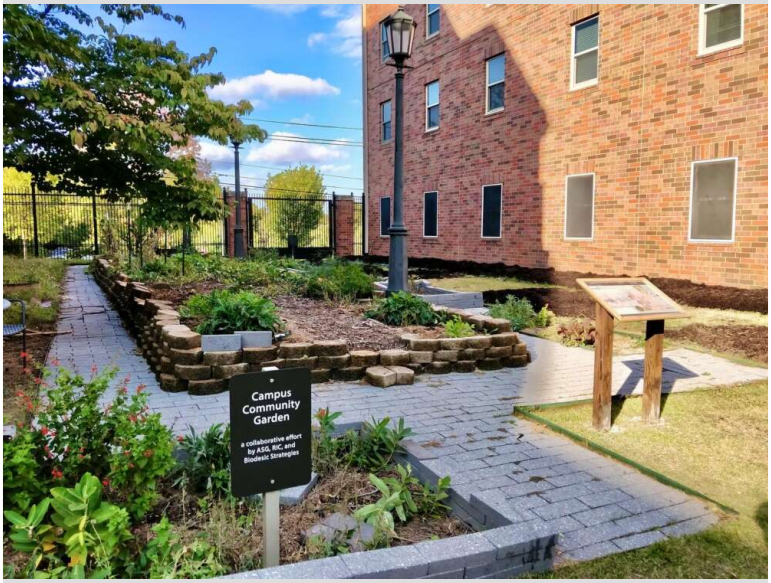
Bee Campus USA - University of Arkansas

Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Creating and enhancing pollinator habitats was a considerable objective for our committee in 2021. New habitat enhancements include the Post-Oak Savanna Restoration, Maple Hill Campus Community Garden, Trail of Tears Memorial beds, Billingsley Music Building beds, Office for Sustainability beds, Office for Sustainability herb garden, U of A Herbarium bed, Students Advocating for the Environment's Pollinator Plot, and the Oak Ridge Forest Garden. In addition to these new habitats, pollinator plots around campus were maintained, as well as the continued conservation of the ground-nesting bee galleries on Old Main Lawn. Many of these projects also included pollinator-related educational components; however, they are solely included in this section due to the emphasis on tangible habitat improvement.



Maple Hill Campus Community Garden in late Summer 2021.

Biodesic Strategies presenting on compost inoculation at one of the Oak Ridge Forest Garden workdays.

Education & Outreach

The return to in-person classes allowed for much more student-oriented and community-led initiatives compared to last year. Events hosted by university affiliates included several Remnant Prairie Conservation Seed Collections, pollinator presentations at the Campus Community Garden, Office Hours in the Pollinator Garden with Melissa King, Open House at

the U of A Herbarium and Arthropod Museum, and a webinar on the Benefits of Rain Gardens hosted by the U of A System Division of Agriculture. The 2021 Arkansas Pollinator Week programming and Project Wingspan, an ongoing project to increase pollinator habitat quality, quantity, and connectivity across the Midwest and Great Lakes Region, were significant community and state-wide undertakings related to the conservation of pollinators.

Seed collection at the remnant prairie on University of Arkansas property.

Volunteers working on new pollinator-friendly beds during Office Hours with Melissa King.

Courses & Continuing Education

For-credit courses: ENTO 4123 – Insect Pest Management, ENTO 4053 – Insect Ecology, ENTO 4043 – Apiculture (Undergraduate and Graduate Level), ENTO 3013 – Introduction to Entomology, ENTO 1023 – Insects, Science & Society, ENTO 4024 – Insect Diversity and Taxonomy (Undergraduate and Graduate Level), ENTO 4043 – Honeybee Biology and Beekeeping (Undergraduate and Graduate Level). With continued spread of COVID-19 cases, The U of A System Division of Agriculture is taking precautions until further notice to ensure safe and healthy learning environments.

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They have chosen to suspend all planned continuing education beekeeping classes and public events for the time being.

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Members of the Entomology Club led an outreach workshop to teach the little sprouts at the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks.

Service-Learning

While there was a majority return to in-person classes, the ongoing nature of COVID-19 continues to limit the scope of in-person learning events and volunteer opportunities. We were able to participate in a few events such as the Arkansas Flower and Garden Show, promoting information about pollinators, and the Northeast Arkansas AG Expo, where we promoted beekeeping and pollinators. Larger-scale projects were also used as learning laboratories for students, such as the previously mentioned Remnant Prairie Seed Collection Events. We are sad to report that after the 2021 Arkansas Flower and Garden Show, the 30th-anniversary event, the Show Board made the difficult decision to discontinue the annual exhibition.

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Service-learning Class at the Botanical Gardens of the Ozarks.

Educational Signage

There have been three permanent signs installed on campus this past year that highlight pollinator friendly beds we have converted around campus and in front of our office. There was also an education sign installed at the Maple Hill Campus Community Garden explained the layout and functions of the space, including pollinator interactions. These will be a permanent reminder to people who wonder why these beds might look different from ornamental beds. We also installed approximately 25 permanent nameplate signs identifying all the native plants in our office bed by their common and scientific name. There have been 10 temporary signs up in areas being restored and rehabilitated to remind people to stay on the trails and to help them understand what is to come.

Permanent sign installed at the Maple Hill Garden Campus Community Garden.

Permanent native plant signage.

Habitat restoration zone temporary sign.

Policies & Practices

All insecticides used on the campus are materials and formulations registered by the EPA for control of targeted insects in public use areas. Materials include a range of different chemical classes with different modes of action. Specific insecticides selected for use are those which pose the least risk to humans and other non-targeted organisms

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from toxicity and residue persistence. A preference is given to biological control agents over non-biological toxicants. Selection of all insecticides are made in consultation with the U of A Department of Entomology as appropriate.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:
https://sustainability.uark.edu/_resources/pdfs/REPORTS/reports-ipm-2014.pdf
Recommended Native Plant List:

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:
https://anps.org/resources/plant-sources/

NATURAL CHARACTER ZONE NATIVE PLANT LIST / 1

Botanical Name	Common Name	Garden	Park	Natural	Hydrologic Indicator*	Notes
LARGE TREES						
Acer rubrum	Red Maple	X	X	X	FAC	
Acer saccharum	Sugar Maple	X	X	X	FACU	
Carya cordiformis	Bitternut Hickory		X	X	FAC	
Carya illinoinensis	Pecan		X	X	FAC*	
Carya ovata	Shagbark Hickory		X	X	FACU	
Celtis laevigata	Sugarberry			X	FACW	
Fagus grandifolia	American Beech	X	X	X	FACU	
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar	X	X	X	FACU	
Nyssa sylvatica	Black Gum	X	X	X	FAC	
Platanus occidentalis	Sycamore		X	X	FACW-	
Quercus alba	White Oak		X	X	FACU	
Quercus falcata	Southern Red Oak		X	X	FACU-	
Quercus macrocarpa	Bur oak		X	X	FAC	
Quercus phellos	Willow Oak	X	X	X	FAC	
Quercus rubra	Northern Red Oak	X	X	X	FACU	
Quercus shumardii	Shumard Oak	X	X	X	FACW-	
Quercus velutina	Black Oak		X	X	UPL	
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black Locust		X	X	FACU	
Taxodium distichum	Bald Cypress		X	X	OBL	do not plant in open lawns
Ulmus americana 'Princeton'	Princeton Elm	X	X	X	FACW	
Acer negundo	Box Elder			X	FACW	
Betula nigra	River Birch			X	FACW	must be planted in a bed
Carya texana	Black Hickory		X	X		
Catalpa speciosa	Northern Catalpa		X	X	FAC	
Celtis occidentalis	Common Hackberry			X	FACU	
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut		X	X	FACU	
Maclura pomifera	Osage Orange			X	FACU	
Populus deltoides	Eastern Cottonwood			X	FAC+	
Quercus marilandica	Blackjack Oak			X	UPL	
Quercus muehlenbergii	Chinkapin Oak			X	FAC	
Quercus stellata	Post Oak			X	FACU	
Ulmus americana 'Valley Forge'	American Elm			X	FACW	
SMALL / MEDIUM TREES						
Amelanchier arborea	Serviceberry	X	X	X	FAC	
Carpinus caroliniana	Blue Beech, American Hornbeam	X	X	X	FAC	
Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud	X	X	X	FACU	
Chionanthus virginicus	Fringe Tree	X	X	X	FAC	
Cladrastis kentukea	Kentucky Yellowwood	X	X	X		
Cornus florida	Flowering Dogwood	X	X	X	FACU	
Cornus kousa	Dogwood	X	X	X		
Crataegus crus-galli var.inermis	Cockspur Hawthorn	X	X	X	FAC	

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Learn More

There has not been an opportunity for the entire committee to come together for an updated photo, so this is a picture taken with part of the committee meeting on the Oak Savanna site. From left to right: Peter Nierengarten, City of Fayetteville director of sustainability; Todd Furgason, UA Planning and Design; McCree Anderson, The Nature Conservancy; Ammen Jordan, UA Sustainability Office; Scott Turley, UA Director of Facilities.

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