



# Bee Campus USA Annual Report Pollinator Conservation & Education 2019



## Nash Community College Rocky Mount, North Carolina

### EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Items to help educate the community about bees and pollination.



Pamphlets, honey sticks, and wildflower seeds were distributed to the community.

BlueFest: April 27, 2019

Earth Day: March 22, 2019

Arbor Day: March 22, 2019

CTE Showcase: October 29, 2019

Phyllis Stiles Presentation to campus and Community: November 19, 2019

BlueFest is an outreach opportunity that is open to the community. The Nash Community College Bee Campus Committee set up an expo at the tobacco barn on campus to educate the community about bees and pollinator friendly practices.



Tammy House, local beekeeper and Bee Campus member, talks with local citizens about bee hives and pollinator practices. Tammy's husband, William, assembles hive frames.



Ken White (landscape specialist) talks to students, staff, and faculty. Dave Bradley (black jacket) was the guest speaker.

Earth Day and Arbor Day were observed simultaneously on March 22, 2019. The event was spearheaded by Ken White (landscape specialist) and Christine Ricci (biology instructor and master gardener). A discussion about pollinators and pollinator-friendly plants was held by Dave Bradley, local bee expert and owner and operator of Sapony Creek Apiaries. A long-leaf pine tree was planted on campus in honor of Earth Day and Arbor Day.



Phyllis Stiles speaks to students, staff, faculty, and local members of the community on pollinator relationships and pollinator decline.

Phyllis Stiles, pollinator champion and Bee City USA founder at the Xerces Society, visited the Nash Community College campus on Tuesday, November 19 to present about the plant and pollinator relationship that supports the reproduction of nearly ninety percent of the world's flowering plant species.

With special emphasis on native bees, Stiles explained why pollinators are declining and how each of us can help reverse those trends.

The Career & Technical Education (CTE) Showcase was hosted for fifth through twelfth-grade students and their parents on Tuesday, October 29, 2019. The event gave students and parents an opportunity to learn more about the college's academic programs, classes, and clubs. The Bee Campus committee

set up a display with the Natural Sciences department to share information about our courses and local pollinators, and distribute wildflower seed packets.

Christine Ricci traveled to Rocky Mount Prep in the spring of 2019 to speak with students about the importance of pollinators. She also introduced them to the basics of beekeeping and taught them about the dynamics of a honeybee hive. This event did not occur on our college campus, but it is worth mentioning for education and outreach.

## POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



A vegetable garden was created.

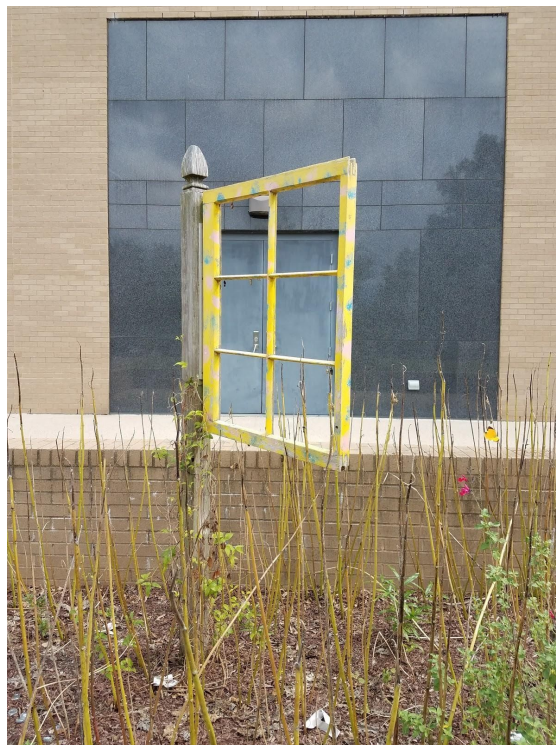
Our landscape specialists killed three grassy areas (to eliminate mowing) and set out pollinator friendly plants.

Diseased plants around campus were removed and replaced with healthy plants.

The apple orchard outside of the Science and Technology Building was enhanced.

Red delicious apples

The milkweed garden behind the Business and Industry center was enhanced.



Campus milkweed garden



Monarch chrysalis



Two gallons of dark, tangy honey were harvested



Lettie Allen and Ken White transplant honeybee packages to the kudzu apiary

Three bee hives were added to the apiary in May of 2019.

These well-functioning hives yielded two gallons of honey.

## SERVICE LEARNING

In April of 2019, Christine Ricci, biology instructor and Bee Campus member, and Haley Honeycutt, Nash Community College student, revitalized the unkempt apiary at the Nash County Arboretum.

They provided maintenance and care in order to save the hives and cleaned the fenced-in area of the apiary.

One of the hives was lost and covered with wax moths. Another hive almost swarmed, but was quickly saved thanks to their hard work.

Haley is now a student at North Carolina State University. Christine still maintains the hives.



Christine and Haley were able to save this arboretum hive.

# CURRICULUM & CONTINUING EDUCATION



Ken White talks with BIO 110 students about bee behaviors and beekeeping practices.



BIO 112 students inspect a hive frame and look for the queen.



-A: BIO 112 students open a hive.

Continuing Education: HOR 245 (Spring 2019) - Horticulture

For-Credit: BIO 110 (Spring and Fall 2019) - Principles of Biology

For-Credit BIO 111 (Spring and Fall 2019) - General Biology I

For-Credit BIO 112 (Spring and Fall 2019) - General Biology II

Ken White, the college landscape specialists, teaches a Continuing Education Horticulture course This course targets local citizens. Along with landscaping and groundskeeping practices, students learn about important local pollinators and their habitats. They also learn about safe pest management practices.

Lettie Allen, a biology instructor, incorporates pollinator behavioral studies and plant and pollinator relationships into the General Biology I and II curriculum.

Christine Ricci, a biology instructor, includes pollinator studies and pollinator habitat preservation into the Principles of Biology curriculum. As a part of this course, she and Ken white introduce students to beekeeping and their importance as pollinators.

# EDUCATIONAL & INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE



Bee Crossing sign posted by the Building D pollinator garden.



Two caution signs posted at the entrance of the kudzu apiary.

## Permanent signage:

- A "bee crossing" sign was added to the pollinator garden outside of Building D. This is a highly trafficked area and we wanted to bring awareness to our pollinators at work.
- Two "caution" signs were added to the entrance of the kudzu apiary. This apiary is difficult to see from the path entrance, so the informative caution signs warn people not to go down the path.
- The Little Nash Farm sign was added to the fencing of the campus garden. This garden is utilized by the entire campus. The fenced-in area includes a garden, greenhouse, and chickens. A bee hive will be added to this garden in 2020.

## Temporary Signage:

- A poster of orchids and their pollinators was posted in one of the instructional learning labs. This informative poster can be moved around to different instructional learning labs around campus.



A poster of orchids and their pollinators in an instructional learning lab.



Sign posted on the fence of the campus flower, vegetable and herb garden.

## POLICIES & PRACTICES

IPM is always used throughout our campus. Any pollinator gardens or vegetable gardens are totally controlled organically. Glyphosate is used sparingly and is the only herbicide used on campus. We use mulch as a weed suppressant, and we directly treat individual fire ant hills. There is a broadcast application of chemicals.

**Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List —**

<https://ncbg.unc.edu/plants/resources-for-gardeners/>

**Regional Native Plant Supplier List —** <https://ncbg.unc.edu/plants/resources-for-gardeners/>

**Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan —** <https://ipm.ces.ncsu.edu/ipm-honey-bees/>

## CONTACT US!

**Committee —** Nash Community College Bee Campus Committee, Lettie Allen

**Website —** <https://nashcc.libguides.com/beecampususa>

**Social Media —** "Nash BIO" Instagram