

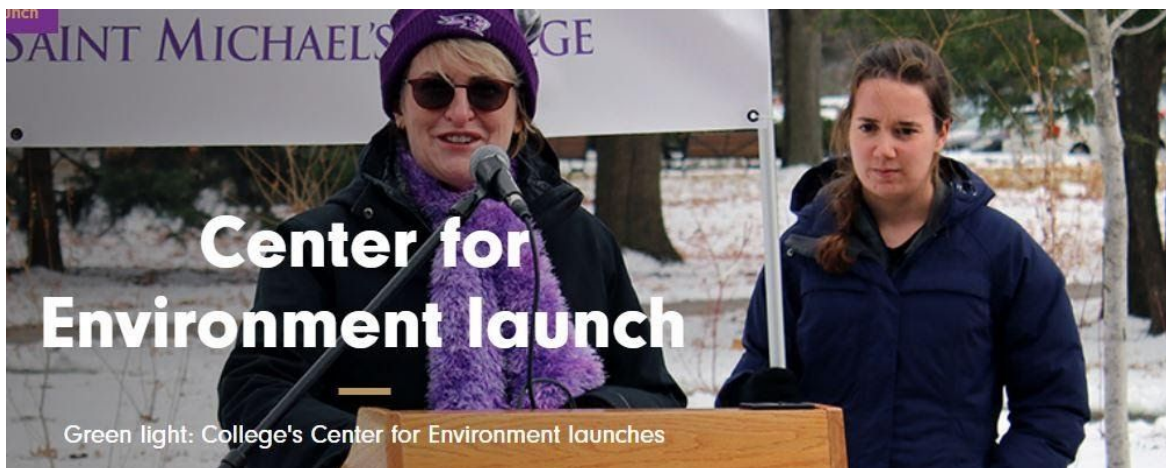


# Bee Campus USA Annual Report Pollinator Conservation & Education 2019



## Saint Michael's College Colchester, Vermont

### EDUCATION & OUTREACH



President Lorraine Sterritt speaking at the launch of the Center for the Environment



Film "The Pollinators" November 6, 2019; Farmers Market throughout growing season; launch of the Center for the Environment, November 8, 2019; Salad Days on Farm every Wednesday during growing season.

The College has embarked on a new initiative called the Center for the Environment, which integrates our students' experience with environmental awareness and stewardship efforts. This includes topics such as sustainable farming in our farm, the value of pollinators and expansion of pollinator gardens and no-mow zones on campus, significant reduction in use of pesticides on campus, and ecological restoration of 350 acre natural area on campus. Education is a component of all of these efforts, through courses, website announcements and presentations.

## POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



Class from local school visiting the Teaching Gardens, learning about pollination.

Expansion and enrichment of organic farm (all year); restoration of cornfield on natural area (all year); 3 new no-mow zones established (May, 2019); planting of milkweed (May, 2019) in no-mow zones; enhancement of Teaching Gardens (May-August, 2019)

We continue to look for opportunities to expand pollinator health and habitat. The institution's decision to stop leasing a large parcel in our natural area for corn, will allow that flood plain forest habitat to be restored. The College has decided to establish several no-mow zones on campus. Additional pollinator gardens/hedges have been planted in the farm. Milkweed seeds were planted in several meadows around campus.

## SERVICE LEARNING

Several classes became involved in refurbishing the bee houses on campus; others were involved in creating pollinator habitat.

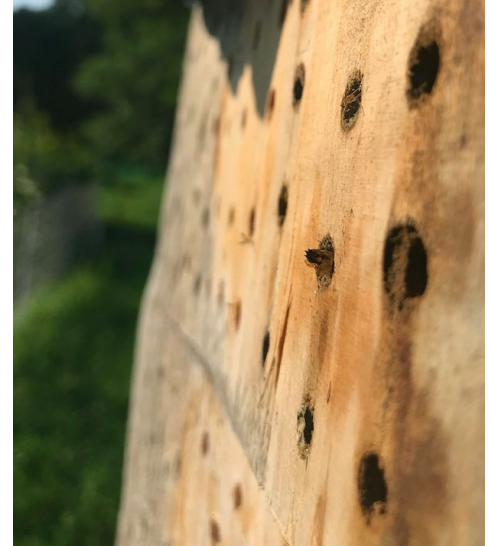
## CURRICULUM & CONTINUING EDUCATION

In each of the courses where topics related to pollinators were presented, the curriculum involved discussion of the process of pollination, different types of pollinators, massive efforts to facilitate

pollination, and challenges to the natural pollination process (including habitat loss, loss of biodiversity, pollution, pesticides, bee illnesses).

We have no continuing education program. Our pollination-related curriculum includes courses in Biology, environmental studies, environmental science, restoration ecology.

## EDUCATIONAL & INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE



Teaching Garden signage describing plants and pollinators

We have a series of permanent metal signs reflecting campus environmental structures and activities; one of these refers to pollinator habitats on campus. Temporary signs (wooden) are located throughout campus at relevant locations; 2 new ones were added last year.

We have installed a variety of metal signs throughout campus which describe various aspects of our increasingly green campus, including signs about the organic farm and pollinator gardens.

## POLICIES & PRACTICES

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), Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics, Reduced the number of sites where pesticides are used.

No pesticides are used on lawns and gardens. Our Facilities and Landscaping staff are fully supportive of our commitment to reducing non-organic chemicals on campus lands.

### **Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List —**

[https://www.vermontwildflowerfarm.com/native-perennial-pollinator-mix.html?cmp=googleproducts&kw=native-perennial-pollinator-mix&Size=Ounce&gclid=CjwKCAjw3-bzBRBhEiwAgnnLCpTZjuEkW9qluaCn\\_h5pmmCQmQBrv7iAtMiJSpL7p8XYptGuDiNRJMRoC82IQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.vermontwildflowerfarm.com/native-perennial-pollinator-mix.html?cmp=googleproducts&kw=native-perennial-pollinator-mix&Size=Ounce&gclid=CjwKCAjw3-bzBRBhEiwAgnnLCpTZjuEkW9qluaCn_h5pmmCQmQBrv7iAtMiJSpL7p8XYptGuDiNRJMRoC82IQAvD_BwE)

**Regional Native Plant Supplier List —**

[https://www.vermontwildflowerfarm.com/native-perennial-pollinator-mix.html?cmp=googleproducts&kw=native-perennial-pollinator-mix&Size=Ounce&gclid=CjwKCAjw3-bzBRBhEiwAgnnLCpTZjuEkW9qluaCnh5pmmCQmQBrv7iAtMiJSpL7p8XYptGuDiNRJMRoC82IQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.vermontwildflowerfarm.com/native-perennial-pollinator-mix.html?cmp=googleproducts&kw=native-perennial-pollinator-mix&Size=Ounce&gclid=CjwKCAjw3-bzBRBhEiwAgnnLCpTZjuEkW9qluaCnh5pmmCQmQBrv7iAtMiJSpL7p8XYptGuDiNRJMRoC82IQAvD_BwE)

**Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan —** In progress

## CONTACT US!

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**Website —**

<https://www.smcvt.edu/academics/center-for-the-environment/sustainability/sustainability-at-a-glance/>