



# Bee Campus USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education



## University of Vermont Burlington, Vermont

### EDUCATION & OUTREACH



The UVM Beekeepers were very involved with numerous educational and outreach activities across campus in 2018. These events ranged from workshops, to talks, to documentary movie showings, as well as the many practical aspects of beekeeping. The highlight of 2018 was the UVM Beekeepers Club being recognized by the Office of Student Life with the President's Award for Outstanding Organization on campus. Here's a look back with non-honey bee events in bold.

- January 27 - Data entry for University of Vermont Ph.D. candidate Samantha Alger's research studies on beekeeping in Vermont.
- January 29 - Showing of the documentary film, "Rotten: Lawyers, Guns & Honey"
- **February 25 - Mason bee "barn" making.**
- March 5 - Beeswax wrap making.
- March 21 - Club field trip to Middlebury, VT for a workshop on Queen Rearing.
- **April 6 - Talk by Ph.D. candidate Samantha Alger on**

#### **Bumblebee viruses.**

- April 7 & 14 - Hive frame-building workshops
- **April 22 - Earth Day flower planting at City Hall in Burlington, VT to celebrate Earth Day.**
- May 1 - Student Life Awards Ceremony - UVM Beekeepers receive the President's Outstanding Organization Award.
- May 20 - Installation of a Nuc to celebrate "World Bee Day".
- August 25 - University of Vermont First-Year New Student Welcome - Observation hive, stickers, and honey
- September 25 - University of Vermont Activities Fest
- September 15, 22 & 29 - Apiary inspection
- September 24 - Club sponsored, "Beekeeping 101" class.
- **October 8, 14 & 20 - Planting a pollinator meadow on the University of Vermont campus.**
- October 15 - Honey extraction event.
- October 24 - Club field trip to Middlebury, VT for a workshop on "Natural Beekeeping".
- November 12 - On-campus viewing of the documentary, "Queen of the Sun".
- Dec. 5 - Club honey sales and informational brochures on cooking with honey.



# POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



**May-September** - Installation and maintenance of pollinator "pocket gardens" around Jeffords Hall on campus by the UVM Horticulture Club, UVM Beekeepers, summer gardening interns and Vermont Master Gardeners. These pocket gardens included many native plants to enhance bee and butterfly pollinator food sources on campus. Additionally, the UVM Horticulture Club, UVM Beekeepers, summer gardening interns and Vermont Master Gardeners, maintained our 150 foot long pollinator garden on campus. This garden included many native plants to enhance campus bee and butterfly pollinator food sources.

**October** - The UVM Horticulture Club and UVM Beekeepers planted a pollinator meadow adjacent to the apiary on campus by. This meadow is being transformed into a meadow of native plants to enhance bee and butterfly pollinator food sources on campus.

The UVM Horticulture Club and the UVM Beekeepers, along with summer interns and Vermont Master Gardeners work to install and maintain numerous pollinator-friendly gardens on campus. These gardens incorporate a variety of early, mid- and late season blooming native plants to improve the biodiversity of plant species and thus pollinator species on and around campus. The latest endeavor was to install a native plant pollinator meadow garden adjacent to our apiary on campus. This meadow garden will be an ongoing effort in the coming years.



# POLICIES & PRACTICES

Our Bee Campus USA Committee includes our campus Grounds Manager along with three faculty members (two from the Plant and Soil Science Department and one from the Chemistry Department) as well as the officers of the UVM Beekeepers Club. We meet once annually to discuss what the educational and programmatic activities will be for the coming academic year. These activities on campus are typically conducted under the direction of the UVM Horticulture Club and the UVM Beekeepers Club. The University of Vermont Bee Campus USA Committee is working towards developing a website that will include all of our group's web-related resources in one location. This is the goal for 2019.

**Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List**—  
<http://vermontlakes.org/lakescaping-2/six-native-plant-lists/>  
**Regional Native Plant Suppliers List**—  
<https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Agriculture/Vermont-Suppliers-for-Native-Plants-and-Seeds.pdf>

<https://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/landowner-resources/liep-invasive-species-program/terrestrial-invasive-plant-resources/native-plant-sources>

**Pollinator-Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan**—  
<http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppd/?Page=grounds/ipm.html>



## SERVICE-LEARNING



This past fall the service learning project was conducted by students in PSS015 Home and Garden Horticulture. We installed a new pollinator "pocket garden" adjacent to the UVM Dairy and Equine Center. This project involved a total of 26 students and took place over several weeks in the month of October. It is anticipated that each year students in PSS015 Home and Garden Horticulture labs will install and/or maintain pollinator-friendly "pocket gardens" on campus.



# CURRICULUM



In 2018 there were three courses offered on pollinators: Pollinators and Perennials (PSS096-Spring semester-24 students), Landscape Design for Pollinators (PSS196-Fall semester-10 students) and Chemistry of Honeybees (CHEM071-Fall semester-21 students). The courses, "Pollinators and Perennials" and "Landscape Design for Perennials" are courses offered every year.

## EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE / CONTACT US!



Due to restrictions on campus, we are limited to the amount of signs we can put up; however, we do have a small sign that provides information about our Mason bee "house" in the arboretum on campus. This is a permanent display.

Our hope is to be able to create additional signage for our various pollinator gardens on campus in the coming years.

### Committee:

The University of Vermont Bee Campus USA committee; Dr. Mark C. Starrett; mark.starrett@uvm.edu

### Website:

[http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppd/?Page=grounds/grounds\\_default.html](http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppd/?Page=grounds/grounds_default.html)

### Social Media:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/uvmbeekeepers/>