



2023 BEE-Cause Reports

Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council



On May 12, Polk County EH promoted pollinators during a Mena Middle School 6th grade field trip where 126 students learned about alternative agricultural careers such as Beekeeping, feeding pollinators by making Seed Bombs with pollinator friendly plant seeds, and the Mena Public schools newly established apiary space for high school students.

We are partnering with the Ouachita Beekeepers to have a Cooking with Pollinators program scheduled for July 20 where we are preparing foods that are dependent on pollinators for production.

Our Ag agent is doing a Promoting Pollinator program to teach our residents how to promote pollinators in their gardens and yards on 7/25.

Our Master Gardeners have established a Pollinator Garden outside of our office to demonstrate different plants available to the homeowner to promote pollination.

We have a Bug Camp scheduled for 4-H on 7/19 to discuss pollinators and other bugs of Arkansas.

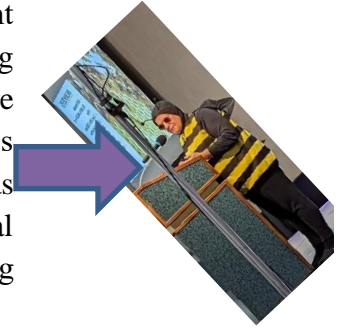
Our Ouachita Beekeepers have challenged the local quilt guild to make quilt blocks depicting pollinators using fabrics from the Guild. The contest is open to the public and the public will vote on their favorite block at our local quilt show in November. Then, the blocks will be pieced, the Beekeepers will pay for it to be quilted and then it will be raffled next spring to benefit the pollinator projects.





Illinois Association for Home and Community Education

The state of Illinois rolled out the Project in Common August of 2022 during the August District Workshops. Each state officer incorporated the “BEE-CAUSE Pollinators Feed the World” into their 2023 programming. The IAHCE President challenged each county to not only raise awareness through programming and events but also through fundraising. The members of Illinois love tangible projects about things they can identify with such as being a “queen bee”. That’s \$10 please! Yes, IAHCE has one whole county HCE group who identifies as queen bees and backed it up with said donation! We even had a special presentation by a “waggle dancer” at the 2023 IAHCE “Pearls of Wisdom Strung Together” Conference!



The U of I Extension Master Gardeners already had a program about Pollinators and were asked by many of the counties to give presentations. Counties invited beekeeping groups to present lessons and County HCE groups gave lessons not only to members but also at senior centers, 4-H groups, schools, after school programs, and at Seed Expos just to name a few. The county newsletters were full of articles, fun facts, and games about pollinators.

Some examples of activities: Perry county (Jane Chapman’s County) gave out empty honey bear jars to anyone and everyone to fill with donations. She even had a couple of young volunteers (pictured below) who had a “county permit” to sell lemonade for the sole purpose of donating the money to the “BEE-CAUSE” project. Perry County also planted pollinators. Lake County (Angela Hicks’ County) also encouraged members to plant trees and pollinator plants to attract pollinators. Lake County participated in a Seed Expo in early February this year where approximately 2300 people stopped to hear about the importance of “BEE-CAUSE Pollinators Feed the World” (display pictured below).

Illinois is continuing the project to the end of 2023. At the 2023 IAHCE Conference we collected the donations counties have collected so far. IAHCE had collected \$2,508.96 so far and when the call came in from NVON to hurry and get the donations sent in to be matched by Heifer International we were very excited to do so. The goal was to have all of our members give at \$1.00. We have approximately 4,100 members so with the match we have far exceeded donation expectations!!!”



Perry Co. 4-H kids collecting & Elementary Class



Lake Co. Seed Expo





Indiana Extension Homemakers Association

Indiana's Boone County EH Club collected \$132 at their bee themed Achievement Day. The Northwest Jefferson EH Club donated \$25. Baking with Honey lesson was given at the Northwest Jefferson EH Club were the hostess served Honey Cupcakes and made clothespin bee favors.



Submitted by Michele Roberts, outgoing IEHA President



Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association

Kentucky did a three-year project on Bees and Pollination which ended in May 2021. At that time, we had extensive classes, speakers and projects on this topic. We have not addressed this project specifically since then. Many of our local counties have had Bee Keepers as speakers and presenters at County and Area Meetings this year. At least two Areas I attended used the Bee theme in their decorations for their meetings. I have told each area and annual meeting that I have attended about the project in common and ask that they promote this as much as they can. I have attended 9 of the 14 Areas and 9 County annual meetings since July of last year. All of our State money is budgeted way in advance. It takes a meeting of the full Board to make changes. We do not meet again until November



Submitted by Brenda R. Hammons, KEHA President

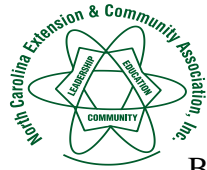


Michigan Community Education Outreach

Michigan donated \$200 and reached 113 people. Bee lessons were given at our 4 District Meetings.

Submitted by Kristine Mueller, MCEO President

North Carolina Extension and Community Association, Inc.



North Carolina had 52 volunteers who donated 126 hours.

Activities included:

Bees & Other Pollinators _50 - leader training: 47 displays

Pollinator flower gardens: 18 tours; 75 gardens developed

Demonstration gardens: 4 leader training; 12 tours

Fund Raisers BEE-CAUSE program

3 Classroom presentations

8 Newsletter articles



Rutherford County ECA Presentation for 6th graders at STEM Expo



West District Display



Rutherford County members tour the Flowering Bridge



Rutherford County members paint Bee Door hangers and sampled pollinator inspired recipes



Randolph County members tour The NC Botanical Gardens



Cleveland County members presented several programs, including

- Earth Dumplings – Seed Bombs
- 7 Things You can do for Pollinators



Member's gardens



Workshop by Debbie Roos, Hort Agent and virtual tour of Chatham Mills Pollinator Paradise Garden for State Conference



ECA garden at Extension Office



Tour of garden at Tryon Palace/Jones House



Pollinator display at State Conference



Workshop taught

Submitted by Wanda Denning, NCECA President



South Carolina Family and Community Leaders

Bee-Cause Pollinators Feed the World state project chair Dale Morrow, attended state, district, county, and club meetings promoting this project by organizing speakers for meetings, presenting table displays, writing articles for publications and collecting photos and report forms for progress of this project. Her efforts have education members and meeting attendees about pollinator's importance and their value in every part of our lives. We look forward to promoting this project again next year and making a bigger impact on our clubs, counties and state members.



Charleston County hosted the 2022 Annual Meeting in October in Summerville. As you can see, they went over the top with table decorations and an adorable bee skit wearing bee aprons all made by one member.



At the 2023 Spring Coastal District Meeting and Richland County Spring Council Meeting, the programs were designed to promote the Bee-Cause Project as a reminder about the importance of pollinators.



To promote the Bee-Cause project, this table highlighted the BEE's important role in our food chain and the different types of bees in South Carolina. Dale Morrow, State Project Chair organized this display for the Spring Central District Meeting for 36 attendees and guests.



Dale Morrow, State Project Chair for Bee-Cause Pollinators Feed the World attends the Annual Meeting in Charleston and includes a table display about Pollinators with handouts. There were 68 meeting attendees.

Club member planted 6 container gardens of flowers with varieties specifically to attract butterflies, dragonflies, and bees. It took about 15 hours to organize and plant the flowerpots. A great learning project with grandchildren.



Horrell Hill Club hosted the Spring Council Meeting. In addition to the handmade table decorations, they invited a lawyer turned beekeeper as guest speaker who gave information about pollinators, bees, and beekeeping in **DETAIL**. A very informative and interesting presentation for the 25 that attended.

Charleston County members planted Zinnias as you can see, they are attracting several kinds of pollinators and the garlic flowers are attracting flying critters too. Marigolds, sunflowers, milkweed, Alyssum, and wildflower seeds were planted for bees and wasps. Sweet peas were planted in January and provided early spring blossoms. Garden vegetable seeds planted were cucumber, summer squash, watermelon, beans, and pumpkin planted for their blossoms. Parts of yards were not mowed so wildflowers would provide early spring blossoms. Many hours were spent weeding out the flower beds so the plants would not be overtaken with weeds. Those members who did not plant or work in gardens worked at the county fair to education attendees the importance of pollinators. About 2,200 volunteer hours for all these projects since September 2022.



Submitted by Pat Breznay, SCFCL President



West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service, Inc.

West Virginia collected \$55 at their WVCEOS Conference and one of their clubs donated \$40 which was sent to Heifer International. Donations were also made to local beekeepers. The “Pollinators” lesson was presented at WVCEOS Conference and a craft session “Pollinators and Creating Pollinator Havens” was held at the WVCEOS Conference. 4 Clubs planted pollinator gardens. 4Hers were taught the importance of pollinators and how to make seed bombs. WVCEOS Clubs studied the 2023 Lesson, “Pollinators.”

Submitted by Clinedda Austin, WVCEO President



Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education

At the WAHCE state conference in September of 2022 on of the state wide programs Bee-Cause was presented to all of the county program chairs and they all took home a complete packet with thumb drive and were encouraged to include that program or one like it in there 2023 program planning. There were brochures from NVON available for them to take back to their county members. Most counties as well as the districts have had at least one program on this subject. Our members have been encouraged to plant pollinator gardens and many of them have started making milkweed available for the Monarch butterflies.

In some of the programs we handed out packets of flower seeds. Some counties had brochures from the department of Agriculture or local garden clubs.

We are hoping to have a display of pollinator gardens from around the state at our 202.3 conference.

In 2021 and 2022 we financed the startup of several keepers and honey producers in Nicaragua. The fire stations in several villages are doing that to help finance the purchase of needed equipment. This is a fast-growing small industry in the country. In Nicaragua, it costs \$500.00 to set up one complete beekeeping and honey processing station. We intend to finance another set up this year.

Submitted by Eileen Gottbeheat, WAHCE President
