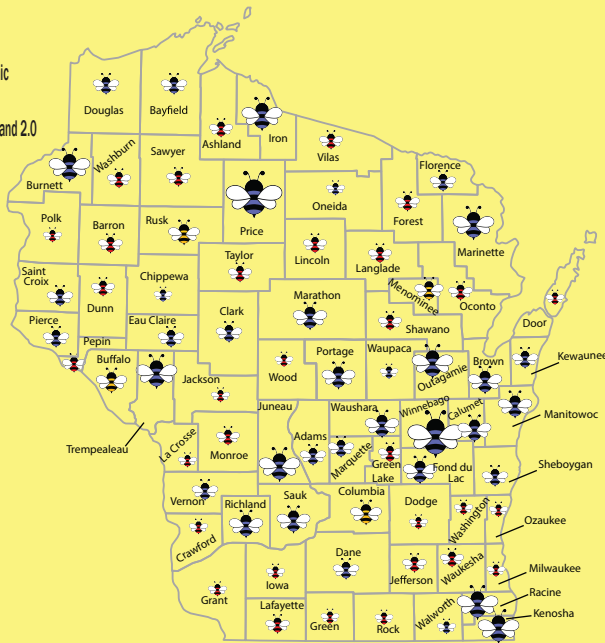
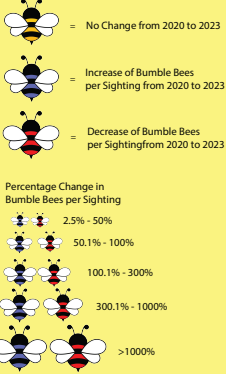


The Visual Examination of Growing and Shrinking Bumble Bee Populations in Relationship to the Presence of Forest and Grasslands

Changes in the Number of Wisconsin Counties' Bumble Bees per Sighting from 2020 to 2023

Tucker Richards
 Projection: USA Contiguous Albers Equal Area Conic
 USGS
 Data: Class Resources, Bumblebee Brigade, Wisland 2.0

Colors Legend



Bumblebees prefer to nest and forage where grasslands and forests meet. Having both close together is prime real estate

Since the arrival of Europeans, grasslands in Wisconsin have been on a decline leading to a reduction of viable habitat for Bumble Bees

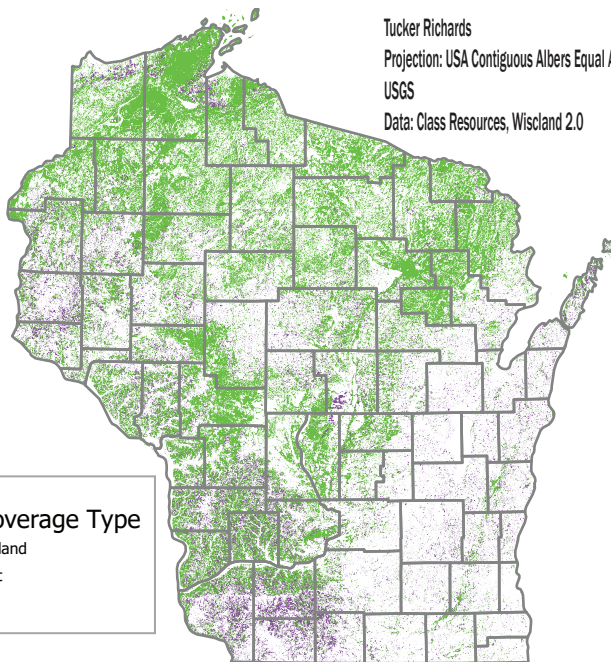
Sighting: when the recorder is able to observe and count the number of bumble bees in an area

Fun Fact: Prairie burnings are correlated with high bumble bee populations!

While there might appear to be a correlation in some areas, such as Price County. Areas like Winnebago county are an enigma with its lack of meeting areas

Grassland vs Forest Land Coverage in Wisconsin Counties

Tucker Richards
 Projection: USA Contiguous Albers Equal Area Conic
 USGS
 Data: Class Resources, Wisland 2.0



Land Coverage Type

- Grassland
- Forest
- Other

The COVID-19 pandemic can possibly explain the fluctuations. During lockdown, many took it as an opportunity to explore outside.

Fun Fact: Bumble Bees do not produce honey! Only Honeybees do!

People in some areas might have made a habit of going outside to observe bumblebees. Other's might have stopped when the lockdowns ended and they had to go back to work/school