

Beekeeping Facility of the Year

The Washington State Beekeepers Association wants to recognize one Washington State Correctional Facility for their exemplary beekeeping education program. The beekeeping facility of the year will have demonstrated dedication to beekeeping education, good beekeeping practices, and a strong beekeeping community.

To nominate your facility, work as a group and with your liaison to write a one-page summary describing the beekeeping program at your facility and your beekeeping work (success, challenges, etc.) over the past year. Please also respond to the questions below.

Facility Liaison Staff Name and Email: **Kelly Peterson – kmpeterson1@doc1.wa.gov**

Partner Beekeeping Organization or Volunteer Sponsor: **WASBA**

Number of Beginning Beekeeping Classes in 2023: **5 Classes = 72 Students**

Number of Apprentice Beekeeping Classes in 2023: **4 Classes = 19 Students**

Number of Journeyman Classes in 2023: **20 groups of 5 conducting hands-on and other activities towards Journeyman = 100 + Students**

Number of Hives in Spring 2023: **3 new nucs**

Number of Hives heading into Fall 2023 (if changed from Spring 2023, please describe why):

We caught 5 swarms this summer, 1 was a wild swarm. We lost a queen in one so combined two equaling 8 hives total at end of August. We also created a split resulting in another colony. We will be combining 1 or two hives to go into winter with 6 strong hives. Queens left over after combine will be donated to other facilities or outside community need.

Did you host/participate in any special beekeeping programs, events, or educational activities this year? If so, please describe:

- 1. The Garden Curriculum class grew various pollinator plants for the new bee garden around the apiary. The garden was expanded with bricks created out of ground clay.**
- 2. Conducted a split where frames were moved to a new empty hive and the colony was forced to make a queen. This was a successful split.**
- 3. The SCCC Bee club will be making soap, lip balm, hand balm and candles.**
- 4. Showed several different bee movies to beekeeping students as part of the ongoing education.**