



JEAN-FRANCOIS FALOPPA EDUCATIONAL APIARY

Volume 4, Issue 20

Spring Newsletter

April 2018

*"If the bee disappeared off the face of the earth, man would only have four years left to live."
— Maurice Maeterlinck, The Life of the Bee*



Upcoming Events!



- 6 apple and 6 cherry trees will be delivered in the **middle of April** and planted across from the apiary by the college.
- Hive Build Day will be **April 21 @ 10 AM-** please bring your hives and any tools we could use to help assemble.
- We have ordered 3 times the amount of wildflower seed which will allow us to do a heavy seeding and it is expected to arrive in the **middle of May.**
- Once the NUCs and packages of bees arrive, we will have an install and a hive split demo day. Plan for the **middle of May.**



GARDNER CLUB MEMBERS NEEDED:

Do you love working in the garden and volunteering? If so, this team is perfect for you. We are looking for Bee Club members to manage the fruit trees and plants around the Jean-Francois Faloppa Apiary in their spare time. This would include pruning and taking care of the shrubs, plants, and newly planted fruit trees. You would be encouraged to do this on your own time and with your own tools, whenever it is convenient for you. It would not be at a club gathering. If you are interested in being a part of this team, please contact Jim Ford for further information.

Welcome

New Members!

We currently have 55+ new Bee Club members this year and if you are a returning member and have not paid your dues, please fill out the attached forms in the email you received... A new apiary release form must be filled out each year!



Check out our new website:

Spring Newsletter



New Bee-ginnings!

On Saturday, April 7th the MCC Bee Club members set off to clean and repair all of the frames and boxes that were stored away this winter. Members gathered the old wax off frames to be melted down into candles and scraped old propolis (bee glue) off all the sides of the frames and honey/brood boxes. This is a necessary, yet very sticky and messy, job to make sure we are properly caring for our equipment and are ready when the nectar flow arrives.



Check out our new website:

Spring Newsletter



POLLINATOR'S WEEK: June 18-24, 2018



Eleven years ago the U.S. Senate's unanimous approval and designation of a week in June as "National Pollinator Week" marked a necessary step toward addressing the urgent issue of declining pollinator populations. Pollinator Week has now grown into an international celebration of the valuable ecosystem services provided by bees, birds, butterflies, bats and beetles.

MCC Bee Club will be celebrating their Pollinator's Day on
Saturday, June 23, 2018 from 10 AM - 2 PM.

We are looking for volunteers to work the tent and help out with the celebration. If you are interested in volunteering or have a great idea to help make the event more successful, please contact Jim Ford.

If you cannot help out at the event, we would like to encourage all club members to stop by and visit during the day and to bring a friend! We are hoping for a big turn out this year to showcase our improvements to the Jean-Francois Faloppa Apiary.

What is pollination?

Pollination is a vital stage in the life cycle of all flowering plants. When pollen is moved within a flower or carried from one flower to another of the same species it leads to fertilization. This transfer of pollen is necessary for healthy and productive native and agricultural ecosystems.

- About 75% of all flowering plant species need the help of animals to move their heavy pollen grains from plant to plant for fertilization.
- About 1,000 of all pollinators are vertebrates such as birds, bats, and small mammals.
- Most pollinators (about 200,000 species) are beneficial insects such as flies, beetles, wasps, ants, butterflies, moths, and bees.

Why are pollinators important?

Pollinators are often keystone species, meaning that they are critical to an ecosystem. The work of pollinators ensures full harvests of crops and contributes to healthy plants everywhere.

- An estimated 1/3 of all foods and beverages is delivered by pollinators.
- In the U.S., pollination produces nearly \$20 billion worth of products annually.



Check out our new website: