



News Release

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Coffee Creek Correctional Facility adds beekeeping to inmate programs

A group of honey bees arrived at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility late last month to take up residence in three hives that will be cared for by inmate workers as part of the first prison beekeeping program in Oregon.

The hives each contain one queen and up to 5,000 bees, which include drones and worker bees. Ten inmate workers from the minimum facility will ensure the bees are well fed and cared for. In addition to taking care of the bees, the inmates will take classes and work toward becoming certified apprentice beekeepers.



The program, sponsored by the Oregon State Beekeeper Association, is part of DOC's sustainability efforts. One of the agency's sustainability goals is to provide inmates with job skills through sustainability practices. Job preparedness is one component that contributes to successful reentry into society and reduced recidivism.



CCCF is a multi-custody facility in Wilsonville that houses more than 1,200 women. CCCF delivers a range of correctional services and programs including alcohol and drug treatment, education, work opportunities, cognitive programming, and pre-release services. The minimum facility opened in 2001 and the medium facility opened in 2002. CCCF is Oregon's only women's prison. It also houses the state's intake center, which provides intake and evaluation of all female and male inmates committed to state custody.

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