About Swarmed & Citizens of the Hive

Swarmed and **Citizens of the Hive** are sister projects working to support local bees and beekeepers. We maintain a honey bee public alert system to report bee colonies to local beekeepers.

Why are swarms so crucial?

Pollinator losses are at record highs, with over 60% of U.S. hives lost this year. Swarms are critical to bee population recovery, but many go unrescued because beekeepers are hard to reach. By getting more swarms into beekeepers' hives, we double the likelihood that the bees will survive and help beekeepers save time and money.

For the public, Swarmed provides an appropriate referral path for inquiries about bees, wasps, and bumblebee swarms/nests, which can cause alarm when they appear.

Swarmed

Swarmed is a free public reporting tool for honey bee swarms. When someone sees a swarm, they can submit a report online. Swarmed alerts local beekeepers, and in most cases, the public can expect to get a response within 20 minutes to arrange safe removal.

Over 10,000 beekeepers across the US are available to handle swarms. If no beekeepers are available nearby, the system lets the user know and gives alternative resources.

We only share data with the beekeeper who claims the swarm, and only for the purpose of coordinating swarm removal. Reporting is free, though beekeepers may charge a fee for hard-to-access or well-established colonies.

Organizations can share Swarmed as a trusted resource to reduce unnecessary extermination calls, protect pollinators, and help the public take action quickly and safely.

Swarmed is a satellite partner of the California Master Beekeeper Program at the University of California, Davis.

Report a swarm

Citizens of the Hive

Citizens of the Hive is the research and education arm of the project. It uses anonymized swarm data to support pollinator science, public education, and habitat planning.

We've collected over 4 million unique data points on honey bee swarms and helped rehome more than 500 million bees.

This data is shared openly with researchers, educators, and local governments. It helps answer questions like:

Organizations that share Swarmed also contribute to a growing public dataset on bee health and behavior.

Learn more