

 <p><b>BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY</b> ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY</p>	<p><b>Guidance for Discovery and Removal of Bee Swarms</b></p> <p>Revision 2, April 8, 2016</p>
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The Boise State Student Union operates a bee farm on the roof of the building. This roof top farm is managed by the Union and a few student interns. From time to time bees in the early spring will swarm. They will leave the colony they have established on the roof, and could try to relocate in another location. If a swarm is found on campus, it likely is the queen and half of her colony trying to set up a new colony.

In the event a swarm is identified, please:

- Notify FOM immediately by calling 426-1409. The area will be assessed to determine if it needs to be taped off to keep individuals away from the active bees who may be aggressive and could sting individuals.
- Contact Melinda Jean Stafford with the Student Union, 426-1942, so they can determine if this swarm belongs to the Union, and if it is in a location that can be easily accessed.
- If the swarm belongs to the union and it is easy enough to retrieve, that afternoon, the Student Union interns will suit up and will capture the queen in a box. The box with the queen will be left in that location. Over the next few hours into the evening the bees will reunite with the queen. Once the queen is in the box she will remain. At sundown all of the bees will have returned to the queen and the interns can transport the swarm back up to the hive and hope that it remains in this location.
- If the Student Union cannot retrieve the hive based on location or they determine the colony is not theirs, FOM will contact two individuals within the team that are bee keepers who are trained to safely remove the swarms.
  - Lowell Bailey
  - Steve Fowler
- If Lowell and Steve are not available, contact the Treasure Valley Bee Keepers Club at [idabees.org](http://idabees.org). They keep an active list of those bee keepers in the valley who will come to campus and retrieve swarms.
- If events happen on Saturday or Sunday and a decision must be made on swarm removal or elimination, FOM will make that decision, however, please notify Melinda Jean Stafford with the Student Union that the event occurred.