

**CONSORTIUM ON LAW AND VALUES  
AWARD REPORT FOR THE 2015-2016 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR**

**Healthy Honey Bees and Communities: Implementation Recommendations for Community  
Apiaries in Urban Neighborhoods**

**Ana Heck, Master of Public Policy, Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs**

**Project Summary:**

Public concern about honey bee health issues has coincided with an increase in backyard beekeeping and efforts to support pollinators. Community apiaries offer land to beekeepers, which makes beekeeping accessible to those who do not have access to land suitable for beekeeping. In the United States, community apiaries are uncommon, and there is a lack of research and information on best practices. Based on academic literature, interviews, and my own professional beekeeping experience, my report outlines factors that should be considered by local governments and beekeepers interested in implementing and managing a community apiary in a northern city in the United States. My report includes recommendations related to community apiary site location, leadership, city governments, the public, participating beekeepers, and honey bee colonies.

**Financial Summary**

Stipend:	\$4,833.44
Speaker Honoraria:	\$0
Supplies & Services:	\$527.47
Equipment:	\$1,509.43
Travel:	\$115.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,985.34</b>

**Results**

I presented my research at the Northern Plains Sustainable Agriculture Conference in Aberdeen, South Dakota on January 23, 2016.

This project was part of my Masters in Public Policy Professional Paper. I had my oral examination on May 11, 2016, and I submitted my paper on May 17, 2016. My paper will be publicly available via the University of Minnesota's Digital Conservancy.

The Minnesota Hobby Beekeepers Association will post my report on their website. I will present my results at a Minnesota Hobby Beekeepers Association meeting in the fall of 2016.

Staff from the City of Saint Paul plans to post my report to the city's website.

I am continuing to inspect the honey bee colonies at Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary in partnership with staff from the City of Saint Paul. Over the summer of 2016, the colonies will be used for education of city officials, youth groups, and the public.

Professor Fernando Burga from the Humphrey School of Public Affairs and I submitted a proposal and received funding from the University of Minnesota Institute on the Environment to study connections between urban planning and pollinators. Our research project is informed by my research on community apiaries and the connections I have built with beekeepers and pollinator experts.

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**Future project plans**

I am considering submitting a portion of my research report to a beekeeping journal, such as the American Bee Journal.

This project may inform future research on community apiaries, beekeeping on public land, pollinator education, and urban beekeeping.