

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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HAMILTON COUNTY COOL CREEK NATURE CENTER AND HELPING NINJAS

participates in nationwide program to increase populations of super-pollinating, hole-nesting bees.

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– Washington-based Crown Bees is announcing the launch of The Native Bee Network, a unique national program that provides the education and tools to find, protect and increase populations of native hole-nesting bees in backyards, farms and orchards across the U.S.

[Helping Ninjas & Hamilton County Parks Cool Creek Nature Center] is participating with Crown Bees in a long-term program to locate and identify hole-nesting native bees, partner with researchers, raise them, and ultimately place them into our agricultural system. Their goal is to find the prevalent the hole-nesting species of our roughly 4,000 native bee species in North America. Groups and individuals are placing wild bee houses in backyards, fields and right of ways, using a unique identifier and adding them to a nationwide database and map using a custom web application.

HELPING NINJAS, INC]

Helping Ninjas has joined efforts with Hamilton County Parks & Recreation Native Bee Hut Coordinator, Holly Faust, to install native bee huts and reeds onto 39 trees across 100 acres of land at Cool Creek Nature Center in Carmel, IN. Helping Ninjas

made a donation to purchase the Native Bee Huts to help Holly Faust, Hamilton County Parks, achieve her goal to become part of the Native Bee Network.

The Native Bee Hut Project is an initiative to create awareness and educate the public about native bees, and the Helping Ninjas donated the 39 Native Bees Huts to help launch the Native Bee Hut project and will help to install them before the end of Summer, and has hopes to help Holly Faust in the future to place more huts in surrounding areas of the other Hamilton County Parks and hopes that this project will help to educate the community that this is something anyone can do your own back yard.

While the native bee huts do provide additional habitat, another reason for installing them is to find out how many different species of native hole nesters are in our habitat, which ones are not, and how they are affected by the non-native honey bees. This data is gathered as part of the Native Bee Hut project, and will be sent to the Native Bee Network. READ MORE: <http://helpingninjas.com/native-bee-hut-project/>

HAMILTON COUNTY PARKS COOL CREEK NATURE CENTER

[The Native Bee Network saying is 'Supporting Native Bees One Backyard At A Time.' I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to help in research and contribute to getting native bees on organic farms and in the public. We focus on hole nesting native bees because 75% of our native bees actually nest in the ground. It is not feasible to dig up ground nesting bee nests and rummage through it and expect them to survive. It is much more feasible to study native hole nesting pollinators. I'd like to find out what we have in our parks – our backyard, and then continue to support our native bees.]

Holly Faust, Educator & Manager, Hamilton County Parks Cool Creek Nature Center

CROWN BEES

[Our bees need to be found, increased in numbers, and then placed back into native environments where they can thrive. It's not only about food for us, it's also about pollinated maples, which supply habitat for deer, or seeds for quail and mice.]

Dave Hunter of Crown Bees, Meddville, Washington.

