

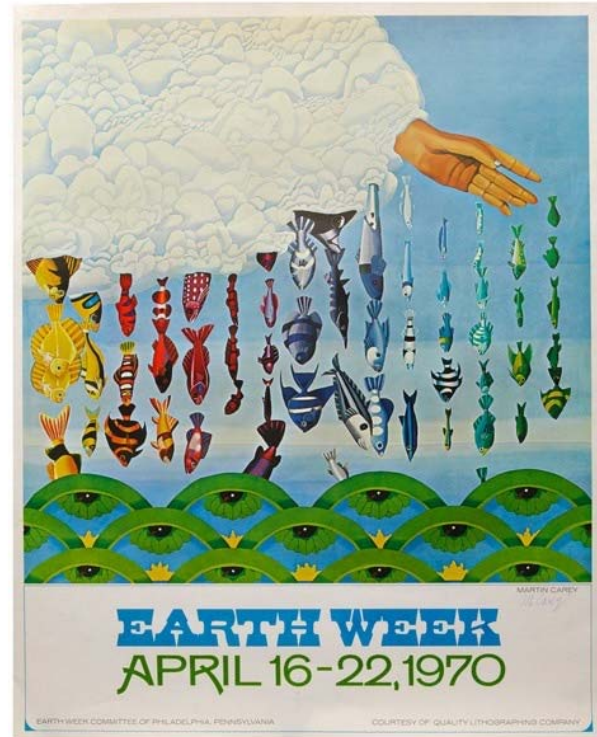
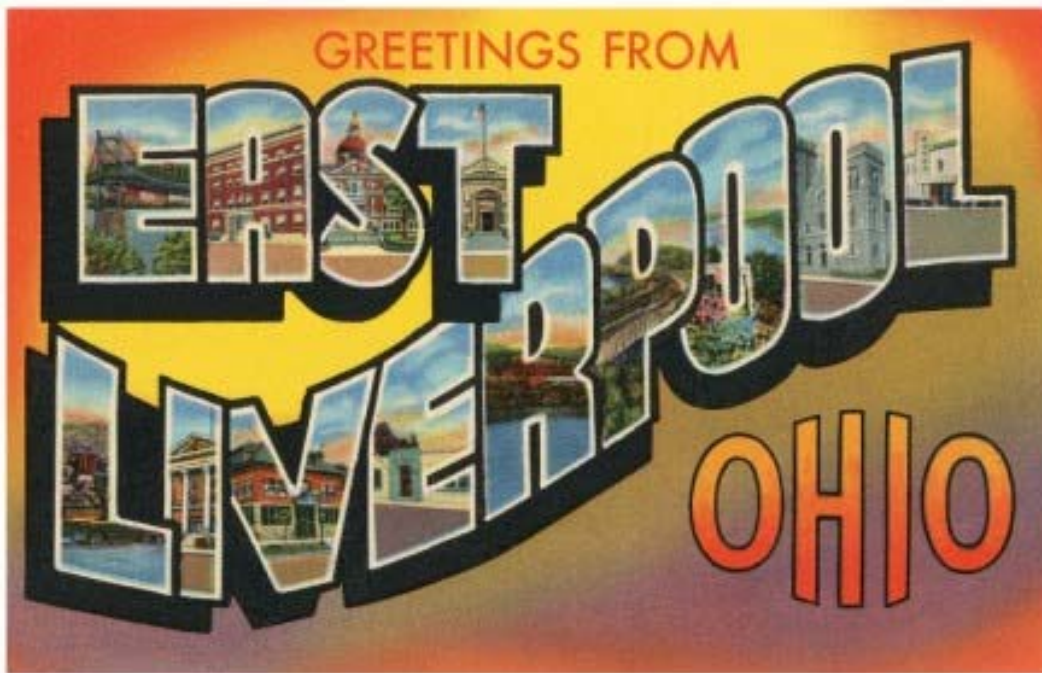
Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative Symposium

Wednesday, August 31st, 2016
Rhodes Center- Ohio Expo Center

Hon. Paula Brooks

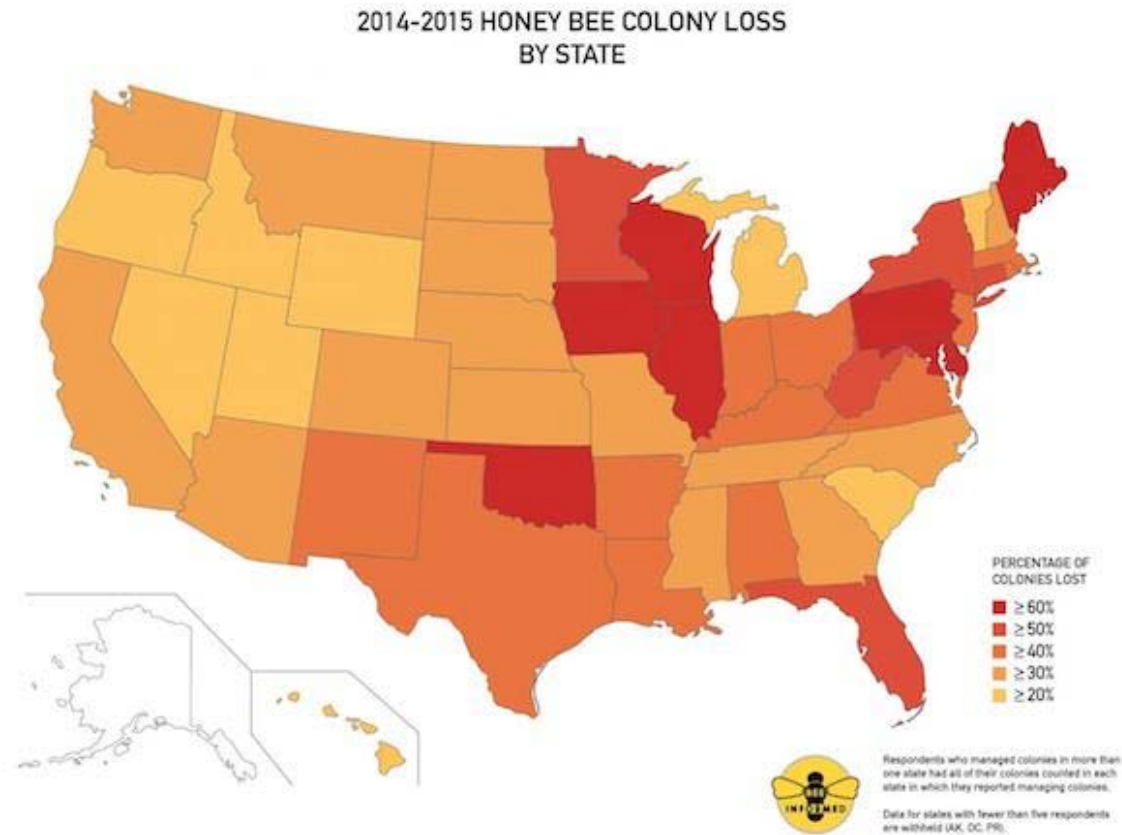
Franklin County Commissioner
Member, White House Task Force on
Climate Preparedness and Resilience





Colony Collapse Disorder

- Since 2006, many beekeepers have lost as much as 90 percent of their colonies



<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/40-percent-of-u-s-bee-colonies-died-in-past-year/>



White House Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience

Recommendation: Restore and conserve ecosystems and lands to build resilience in a changing climate

- Minimize the decline of marine life, wildlife, **pollinators**, and plants vulnerable to climate change by supporting full and robust implementation of the National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Adaptation Strategy and enhanced interagency coordination.



Franklin County Holton Ditch Pollinator Garden



White House Actions

NATIONAL STRATEGY TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH OF HONEY BEES AND OTHER POLLINATORS

- **Honey Bees:** Reduce honey bee colony losses during winter (overwintering mortality) to no more than 15% within 10 years. This goal is informed by the previously released Bee Informed Partnership surveys and the newly established quarterly and annual surveys by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service. Based on the robust data anticipated from the national, statistically-based NASS surveys of beekeepers, the Task Force will develop baseline data and additional goal metrics for winter, summer, and total annual colony loss.
- **Monarch Butterflies:** Increase the Eastern population of the monarch butterfly to 225 million butterflies occupying an area of approximately 15 acres (6 hectares) in the overwintering grounds in Mexico, through domestic/international actions and public-private partnerships, by 2020.
- **Pollinator Habitat Acreage:** Restore or enhance 7 million acres of land for pollinators over the next 5 years through Federal actions and public/private partnerships.

Franklin County values Pollinators

- Every county in Ohio has responsibility for retaining an apiary inspector that looks out for the health of our bees. It's a unique duty of Ohio counties. We became very active after the media reported on colony collapse disorder in 2006 and we issued a call to action and since then we've more than doubled the number of apiaries here.
- In 2008, we partnered with the Central Ohio Beekeepers Association to fund the first ever Franklin County Apiculture "Buzzzz" Scholarship Program
- In 2015, we funded a pollinator garden featuring native Ohio prairie grasses and wildflowers to support pollinator insects, birds, small mammals, and other local wildlife. The pollinator garden is located at the county's International Harvest Community Garden on Frank Road.



(Photo by Stephen Ausmus/USDA) <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/05/19/announcing-new-steps-promote-pollinator-health>

Future Generations



Questions?

Paula Brooks

Franklin County, Commissioner

Member, President's Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience
Vice Chair, Energy Environment and Land Use Steering Committee,
National Association of Counties

373 S. High St., 26th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

614-525-5729

Paula.Brooks@FranklinCountyOhio.gov



@PaulaBrooksOhio

@FranklinCoOhio

#ActOnClimate

#MoreBeesPlease

