



E.A.R.T.H.

Ecology and Reentry Training Hub



HAVEN

The Leon County Sheriff's Office is excited to announce the first phase of a unique re-entry program for incarcerated individuals. The Ecology and Reentry Training Hub (EARTH) Haven will serve as a central location to provide vocational training in beekeeping, gardening, fish breeding, and more; all skills aimed at reducing recidivism. EARTH Haven intends to offer certifications in pesticide application, arboriculture, landscaping, and horticulture.

Once complete, EARTH Haven will be home to a greenhouse, an outdoor learning center, a mosquito fishpond, a satsuma orange grove, as well as murals painted by incarcerated individuals.

Carniolan Honeybee Farm

The Leon County Sheriff's Office is partnering with the University of Florida and its certified bee management program to create vocational certification opportunities for inmates involved in programs. The 64' X 64' beehive enclosure will house four active beehives, populated with 50,000 honey-producing bees. Participating inmates will begin the process of becoming apprentice beekeepers. LCSO Sgt. Dan Whaley is heading up the beekeeping program. The LCSO beehives are estimated to significantly impact the plants and trees within a 2-mile radius of the bee farm

Mosquitofish Pond

The property has a small pond that will be used to grow mosquitofish. These small fish eat a ton of mosquito larvae which helps reduce the mosquito population in the county. When the fish begin to reproduce, LCSO will partner with the County to provide fish for bodies of water throughout the County as a natural way to control the mosquito population. When the fish population grows sufficiently, we plan to provide fish to County residents for private bodies of water.

Satsuma Orange Grove

The property has sufficient space to allow LCSO to plant several citrus trees. Honeybees like citrus pollen, so creating a small grove of fruit trees that will include satsuma and Myers Lemon trees will compliment the project. When the fruit is ready, LCSO will share with our neighbors in the community, homeless shelters, transitional facilities, and others.