

# What's all the **BUZZ** about?



Airplanes aren't the only ones flying around here! Did you know there are bee hives at The Ohio State University Airport? In partnership with Ohio State's Rothenbuhler Honey Bee Research Laboratory and Department of Entomology, we support research about how different habitats impact honey bees and their nectar collection.



Hives are interspersed across airport property to study bees' use of different habitats, including woods, meadows and pastures.



Inside the hives bees build wax combs as a place to raise babies or to store nectar and pollen as food. (Nectar becomes honey!)



Dale Gelter is the airport beekeeper and assistant director of operations. Smoke helps prevent stings when opening hives.



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
AIRPORT



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## Did you know?!

Bees do a 'waggle dance' to show their hive mates where to find flower nectar.

Bees communicate flower location using special dances inside the hive. One bee dances while other bees watch. The dancing bee smells like the flower patch and gives the watching bees a taste of the nectar she gathered to help them find the flower patch. The waggle dance tells the watching bees two things about a flower patch's location: the distance and the direction away from the hive. The dancing bee waggles back and forth as she moves forward in a straight line, then circles around to repeat the dance. The length of the straight line shows how far it is to the flower patch. Bees dance at a specific angle away from straight up. Then, outside the hive, bees look at the position of the sun and fly at the same angle away from the sun to find the flower patch. Source: [askabiologist.asu.edu/bee-dance-game/introduction](http://askabiologist.asu.edu/bee-dance-game/introduction)



An Ohio State bee dancing!

