Oakwood BioBlitz FAQs

- 1. **Does it cost anything to download iNaturalist and Seek apps?** No. Both these apps are free. You should NOT see any messages about free trials or subscription rates.
- 2. **Can I participate if I don't have the apps?** Even if you don't have access to iNaturalist and Seek, you can use print identification guides (We have a lot at the library) to identify plants, animals, and fungi around you. Part of the goal of the BioBlitz is to get people interacting with the natural world around them. You are a participant whether or not your observations are included. Contact us with questions schmidt@wrightlibrary.org or (937) 294-7171
- 3. **Do I have to live in Oakwood to participate?** No. Anyone can participate. Oakwood is the BioBlitz location however, so all observations should take place within the City of Oakwood.
- 4. I can't get to Oakwood to make observations. Can I still participate? Yes. Everyone can join the Oakwood BioBlitz project on iNaturalist to watch our progress. We also encourage you to make natural observations April 29-May 8 wherever you are. Look in iNaturalist for local projects you can share your observations with and share what you're doing with friends, family, and neighbors.
- 5. **Can my kids participate?** Yes. The Seek app is kid-friendly and fun. They will need a parent's help to connect observations to iNaturalist.
- 6. Why is Wright Library organizing a BioBlitz? In 2021 Wright Library held a successful community conversation about the book *Nature's Best Hope* by Douglas Tallamy, which advocated for grass roots efforts to create a Homegrown National Park, one yard at a time. Based on community response, Wright Library applied for a related grant called #PlantWildFlowers. This grant for libraries was inspired by the documentary film, *My Garden of a Thousand Bees*, and encouraged libraries to host BioBlitzes to foster closer observations of nature. As part of this initiative, Wright Library received 2000 wildflower seed packets and 200 bee identification guides to distribute. Stop by the library to pick up while supplies last. Stream *My Garden of a Thousand Bees* on multiple platforms including pbs.org.