



## AN INTRODUCTION TO BEEKEEPING

This hands-on classroom program combines both the theory and practice of managing honeybees and designed for those who have an interest in pursuing this fascinating hobby. Each session begins with a topic discussion relevant to what is happening in the hive at that time of the year and will be followed by practical demonstrations in the apiary. In this way, the annual cycle of a colony of honeybees is discussed and demonstrated. At completion of the course participants will have the knowledge and skill to manage hives of their own, with the potential for on-going mentorship from a member of the York County Beekeepers' Association.

We are pleased to offer beginner beekeeping classes in 2020 at three different locations. Classes meet for a minimum of two hours and specific topics and areas of discussion outlined below will be covered in addition to time spent in the apiary hives (weather permitting). Participants are encouraged to read between classes and options will be suggested. Pre-Registration is required, and we encourage early registration as classes fill up quickly. Classes meet on second Saturdays March – August unless otherwise noted. An on-line registration form that can be found at <https://www.ycbk.org/member-resources/nu-bee-program>

### CLASS LOCATION AND MEETING TIME OPTIONS:

#### Dover, PA – MARK

10:00 am to Noon  
Except August 15

#### Felton, PA – SAM

10:00 am to Noon

#### Shrewsbury, PA – NANCY

1:00 – 3:00 pm (Five Adults Only)

### TOPIC AND DISCUSSION BY MONTH:

#### **March - Principles And Materials**

Principles of beekeeping; materials and equipment. Weather permitting, an introduction to inspecting a hive.

#### **April - Bees, Pollen And Nectar**

Bee castes; getting and introducing bees into a hive; pollen and nectar flows and manipulating a colony in preparation for the nectar flow.

#### **May - Reproduction Via Swarming**

Honeybee anatomy and reproduction, controlling swarming, nucs and splits, expanding one's apiary. Also, maximizing one's honey crop.

#### **June - Disease And Pests**

Diseases and pests with a focus on varroa mites; means of detection and control emphasizing Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

#### **July - Honey Extraction**

#### **August - Winter Preparation**

Honey bee nutrition, feeding colonies, overwintering needs.

**\*\*September – If needed, a September class might be held if instructor deems necessary**

### COST:

Cost for the complete series of classes will be \$100 per individual and will also include a one-year membership to the York County Beekeepers' Association. Participation by individual class(es) is an option at \$20 per class per person. Children accompanied by an adult are welcome with a cost of \$30 per parent/child lesson or \$150 for all six lessons. Any questions may be directed to [yorkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:yorkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com) or by use of the "contact us" option on our website <https://www.ycbk.org>