



## AN INTRODUCTION TO BEEKEEPING

This hands-on classroom program combines both the theory and practice of managing honeybees and is designed for those who have an interest in pursuing this fascinating hobby. Sessions begin with focused lesson relevant to what is happening in the hive at that time of the year and will be followed by practical hands-on demonstrations in the apiary hives. 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.

We are pleased to offer beginner Beekeeping 101 classes in 2021. Due to Covid-19 we will conduct each month's class via a live Zoom presentation for an hour followed by same day small group gatherings of five for an hour of hands-on in the hive education with an experienced beekeeper. Social distancing will be practiced. Registration is required, and we encourage early registration as there are limited instructors available. Classes will meet monthly March thru August unless otherwise noted. An on-line registration form that can be found at [www.ycbk.org/member-resources/nu-bee-program](http://www.ycbk.org/member-resources/nu-bee-program)

We strongly encourage new beekeepers to become active members of York County Beekeeper's Association and attend the Clubs' virtual monthly meetings held on the fourth Tuesday each month via Zoom (due to Covid-19). One must be an active member to receive the Zoom meeting log-in information. Any questions may be directed to [yorkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:yorkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com) or by use of the "contact us" option on our website [www.ycbk.org](http://www.ycbk.org)

### BEEKEEPING 101 COURSE OUTLINE

#### 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 and 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:**

**Payment for Beekeeping 101 Classes is due by March 5, 2021.** Cost of classes will be \$100 per individual and fees may be paid through PayPal on our website or by personal check **payable to York County Beekeepers Association** and mailed to John Shaffer, YCBA Treasurer, 1442 Bonbar Road, York, PA 17403