



A hands-on education
for any level of
beekeepers.

An inviting and friendly
environment for
Beekeepers.

We strive to supply your quality
products at the lowest price. We love
getting to know our customers and
want to provide the BEST customer
service! So, stop by and visit us the
next time you're in the area and rest
awhile on our front porch in one of the
rocking chairs and take it all in!

Beez Need
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Beekeeping Classes

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In-Hive Hands-On Apiary Classes

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Instructors: Nancy Ruppert (spring, summer), Mark Case (summer)

Classes are planned to take place outdoors in the Beez Needz apiary at 3662 Edgar Rd. Sophia. While the design is informal, there will be a LOT to learn in every two-hour class, so attendees must be attentive in order to get the most bang for their bucks. The focus is on handling frames. Each class has a more specific focus, as identified by the class titles (see below), so priority will be given to those topics during class time. Most classes will be limited to three students—maybe four on occasion—so that each participant gets maximum attention while learning. The same class will be held twice per day to (hopefully) better accommodate participant schedules.

It is advised that participants bring protective gear (veil, suit, gloves); the bees at Beez Needz are usually gentle but any encounter with honey bees involves the risk of stings and associated reactions. Also bring a hive tool, and a smoker if you'd like additional practice/guidance regarding lighting a smoker and keeping it lit. Beez Needz will provide water to drink.

Tuesday, April 2, 2024 Lighting a smoker (and keeping it lit); how to inspect a hive; tips on finding and marking a honeybee queen.
9:30-11:30am
4:00-6:00pm

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 Making hive splits; inspecting swarms (before, during and/or after swarm is hived up); queen castles.
9:30-11:30am
4:00-6:00pm

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 Raising local queens (this class might include queen castle use)
9:30-11:30am
4:00-6:00pm

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 Lighting a smoker (and keeping it lit); how to inspect a hive; tips on finding and marking a honeybee queen.
9:30-11:30am
4:00-6:00pm

Tuesday, April 30, 2024 Making hive splits; inspecting swarms (before, during and/or after swarm is hived up); queen castles.
9:30-11:30am
4:00-6:00pm

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 Raising local queens; queen castles
9:00-11:00am*
5:00-7:00pm*

Tuesday, May 14, 2024 Making hive splits; queen castles
9:00-11:00am*
5:00-7:00pm*

Saturday, May 18, 2024 Making hive splits; queen castles *Note—Saturday class
10:00am-12:00 noon

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 Raising local queens
9:00-11:00am
5:00-7:00pm

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 Pest management, including IPM/chemical use
5:00-7:00pm

Tuesday, June 4, 2024 Pest management, including IPM/chemical use
9:00-11:00am
5:00-7:00pm

Saturday, June 8, 2024 Raising local queens? Pest management? *Note—Saturday class
1:00-3:00pm
(after monthly educ.)

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 Making hive splits; queen castles

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 Topic TBA
9:00-11:00am 5:00-7:00pm