



## PRACTICAL BEEKEEPING FOR BEGINNERS 2025 CLASSES VIRGINIA BEEKEEPING TEACHING CONSORTIUM (VBTC)

The Virginia Beekeeping Teaching Consortium (VBTC) offers ***Practical Beekeeping for Beginners***. The class is intensive, most meet once a week for about 2 months and are designed primarily for people who want to keep bees. Class size is limited, and registration usually fills up early. Classes are open to adults and children (age 10 + accompanied by a paying adult). Books include: Diana Sammataro, *The Beekeepers Handbook (5th ed.)*, Mid Atlantic Apiculture (MAAREC) *Beekeeping Basics & Honey Bee Parasite, Pests, Predators & Diseases* as well as handouts & membership in a local beekeeping association for club affiliated classes. Classes are taught by experienced beekeepers and include information on buying equipment & obtaining bees to start honeybee colonies. Price set by each association. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** *All 2025 students registered with a Consortium class are welcome to make up classes in advance or arrears at any participating association.*

### **Ashland Beekeepers Association (ABA) (Hanover, Henrico, Caroline, King William)**

The 4 part class begins at 9:00 am on Saturday February 8th 2025 continuing Feb 22th, Mar 1st, and Mar 8th at First Baptist Church, 800 Thompson St. Ashland, Virginia. See <http://ashlandvabeekeepers.org/> for registration. Contact Ronnie Bolton at 804-651-3504

### **Botetourt and Blue Ridge (Roanoke area) Beekeepers Associations**

Class meets - Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> 2025, March 1<sup>st</sup>, March 15<sup>th</sup> field day March 29<sup>th</sup> or April 5<sup>th</sup> depending on the weather. Location 901 Russel Drive, Salem VA 24153. For info see Facebook: Botetourt and Blue Ridge Beekeeping Course or email RudyTaylorBees@gmail.com

### **Beekeepers of Northern Shenandoah (BONS) (Clarke, Frederick, Warren, Fauquier)**

Classes Start late January 2025 and there will be several class sessions in various locations TBD. Contact <https://bonsbees.com/> or email [johnlewis702@comcast.net](mailto:johnlewis702@comcast.net)

**Fairfax Area Beekeepers** Will be teaching a class over two weekends in March, 2025 Contact <http://www.fairfaxbees.org>

### **Gateway Beekeepers (King George, Caroline, Westmoreland)**

Class starts Tuesday evening Feb 4th 2025 at 6:30-8:45 pm and continues through March 25th at the King George Citizens Center. Contact Bryce Hanson [001513bah@gmail.com](mailto:001513bah@gmail.com) or Covey McConnell [coveyjean@gmail.com](mailto:coveyjean@gmail.com) See also: [www.gatewaybeekeepers.org](http://www.gatewaybeekeepers.org)

### **Huguenot Beekeepers (HBA)**

Classes start Jan. 25th 2025 and meet every other Saturday through March 8th at the Powhatan Village Building auditorium, 3910 Old Buckingham Rd. Powhatan, VA 23139. Sign up via <https://huguenotbeekeepers.org> For more info contact John Davis [Johndavisiv29@gmail.com](mailto:Johndavisiv29@gmail.com)

## CONTINUED

### **Northern Neck Beekeepers Club (Northumberland, Lancaster, Richmond, Essex, Westmoreland)**

Class starts Monday January 27th 2025 at 7 pm at the Heathsville UMC. Contact Nancy at [nburgess@nucps.net](mailto:nburgess@nucps.net) or at 804 366-6649 See: [www.nnbeekeepers.com](http://www.nnbeekeepers.com)

### **Northern Piedmont Beekeepers Association (NPBA) (Culpeper, Rappahannock, Orange, Madison, Fauquier)**

No class in 2025. Contact Karen Hunt (540-937-4792) or [www.npbee.org](http://www.npbee.org)

### **Peaks of Otter Beekeepers (POB -- Greater Bedford Area)**

Classes will be on Tuesday starting Feb. 4th, 2025. 7:00-9:00 pm at Bedford County Park-Rec 1257 County Farm Rd. Bedford. - Contact Ann Zudekoff at 434-660-6063 or [annbeezee@gmail.com](mailto:annbeezee@gmail.com)

### **Prince William Regional Beekeepers Association (PWRBA) (PW, Fauquier, Stafford)**

Classes Tuesday evenings 7-9 pm at the Manassas Church of the Brethren, 10047 Nokesville Road (Rt. 28), Manassas, VA starting January 16, 2025. Contact Erik Brown, PWRBA Bee School Principal at 703-477-0511 at [BeeSchoolPWRBA@pwrbeekeepers.com](mailto:BeeSchoolPWRBA@pwrbeekeepers.com)

**Richmond Beekeeping Association (RBA)** Classes meet Saturday Jan. 4th 2025, Jan 11th, Feb 1st, and Feb 8th, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Greenwood Methodist Church See <https://richmondbeekeepers.org/> for registration. Contact Ron Stilwell at [stilwellronald@gmail.com](mailto:stilwellronald@gmail.com)

### **Rockwood Park Backyard Beekeepers Association (RPBBA)**

Classes start Jan 18th 2025 and meet every other Saturday through March 1st at the Beulah Recreation Center, 6901 Hopkins Rd, Richmond, VA. Sign up via <https://rockwoodbeekeepers.com/> Contact John Davis at 804-314-5073 or [johndavisiv29@gmail.com](mailto:johndavisiv29@gmail.com) for more info.

### **Shenandoah County Beekeepers (Woodstock)**

Classes start January 26th, 2025 - 7:30pm at 135 N. Main St. Woodstock, VA. Continuing Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, Feb13th, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, Mar13th, 20<sup>th</sup> with three hands on sessions TBD by weather. Preregistration is required through Shenandoah County Parks and Recreation: online at [www.scpr.info](http://www.scpr.info) in person by mail or fax Ph 540-459-6777, for additional info Contact: Scott Currie, 540-325-5202 or [TtripleB@gmail.com](mailto:TtripleB@gmail.com)