

Village of Ossining

Backyard Beekeeping Resources



1. Beekeeping Organizations:

- **Backyard Beekeepers Association** - Welcome to the Back Yard Beekeepers Association. With over 500 members, our association has grown to become one of the Nation's largest regional clubs for beekeeping hobbyists. Some of our members are just getting started as beekeepers, and some have enjoyed this hobby for years. All share an interest in the wonderful and remarkable world of the honey bee.

The purpose of the BYBA is to provide our membership with interesting and practical information about honey bees and the "how-to's" of beekeeping. The club also provides the general public with educational programs about honey bees and the benefits of bees and beekeeping in our communities. The BYBA is a non-profit, charitable organization.

<https://backyardbeekeepers.com/wp/>

- **Hudson Valley Natural Beekeepers** – (formerly Croton Bees launched on June 5, 2011) - is an organization created to share resources and information for beekeepers trying to use sustainable and natural practices to care for and live in harmony with honeybees and other pollinators. HVNB serves the Westchester County, NY area and has over 50 members.



<http://hudson-valley-natural-beekeepers.com/resources/documents/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HudsonValleyNaturalBeekeepers>

- **New York City Beekeeping -Welcome to the New York City Beekeepers Association, a Hive for the Urban Beekeepers of Gotham City**

The mission of the NYCBA is to provide our membership with a medium for sharing knowledge and mutual interest in beekeeping, and to educate and promote the benefits of beekeeping to the world, in a forum of friendship and fun, and to do so safely and responsibly in an urban environment.

<http://www.nyc-bees.org/>

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2. Beginning and Ongoing Beekeeping Education:

Master and Apprentice Beekeeper – Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
<https://www.ecornell.com/certificates/beekeeping/master-beekeeping/>
Online/remote learning program

Penn State University – online course for beginning beekeepers
<http://beekeeping101.psu.edu/>

Honeybeelives Organic Beekeeping Classes and Apiary Services
<http://www.honeybeelives.org/>

Backyard beekeepers, with a conscience towards respecting the needs of the Honeybee, can effect positive change towards keeping hives healthy. Urban beekeeping is as vital as tending bees in a country paradise. No matter where you may have bees, they connect you to nature, the seasons and the environment around you. HoneybeeLives' beekeeping classes in NYC and the Hudson Valley are focused on nurturing the beekeepers who nurture their bees.

Pfeiffer Center – Beekeeping Program – Chestnut Ridge, NY (Rockland County) – Biodynamic and Holistic Beekeeping Workshops
http://www.pfeiffercenter.org/about_us/bees/index.aspx

Spikenard Farm and Honeybee Sanctuary – Principles and Methods of Biodynamic Beekeeping – Gunther Hauk, founder and pioneer in the field of beekeeping
<https://spikenardfarm.org/>

3. Books:

- Toward Saving the Honeybee – Gunther Hauk
- The Backyard Beekeeper – Kim Flottum – Quarry Books
- Beekeeping: A Practical Guide – Hive Management – Richard Bonney
- Natural Beekeeping – Ross Conrad – Chelsea Green Publishing
- The Wisdom of the Hive – Thomas D. Seeley – Harvard University Press
- Beekeeping for Dummies – Howland Blackiston – Lifestyle Paperback
- At the Hive Entrance – H. Storch
- Keeping Bees with a Smile – Fedor Layutin/Leonid Sharashkin

4. Magazines:

- American Bee Journal – www.dadant.com
- Bee Culture, The Magazine of American Beekeeping – www.beeculture.com

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5. Supplies:

- Brushy Mountain Bee Farm – www.beeequipment.com
- Dadant & Sons – www.dadant.com
- Bee Commerce - <http://www.bee-commerce.com/>
- Hudson Valley Bee Supply - <http://www.hudsonvalleybeesupply.com/>

6. Films:

- **Queen of the Sun** – www.queenofthesun.com
QUEEN OF THE SUN: What Are the Bees Telling Us? Taking us on a journey through the catastrophic disappearance of bees and the mysterious world of the beehive, this engaging and ultimately uplifting film weaves an unusual and dramatic story of the heartfelt struggles of beekeepers, scientists and philosophers from around the world including Michael Pollan, Gunther Hauk and Vandana Shiva. Together they reveal both the problems and the solutions in renewing a culture in balance with nature.
- **The Vanishing of the Bees** – <http://www.vanishingbees.com/>
Honeybees have been mysteriously disappearing across the planet, literally vanishing from their hives. Known as Colony Collapse Disorder, this phenomenon has brought beekeepers to crisis in an industry responsible for producing apples, broccoli, watermelon, onions, cherries and a hundred other fruits and vegetables. Commercial honeybee operations pollinate crops that make up one out of every three bites of food on our tables.
- **More Than Honey** - <http://www.morethanhoneyfilm.com/about.html>

Over the past 15 years, numerous colonies of bees have been decimated throughout the world, but the causes of this disaster remain unknown. Depending on the world region, 50% to 90% of all local bees have disappeared, and this epidemic is still spreading from beehive to beehive – all over the planet. Everywhere, the same scenario is repeated: billions of bees leave their hives, never to return. No bodies are found in the immediate surroundings, and no visible predators can be located.

Fifty years ago, Einstein had already insisted on the symbiotic relationship binding these pollen gatherers to mankind: **“If bees were to disappear from the globe,” he predicted, “mankind would only have four years left to live.”**
- **This Made by Hand** – The Beekeeper
http://thisismadebyhand.com/film/the_beekeeper
Local farmer Megan Paska has witnessed beekeeping as it morphed from an illegal (and possibly crazy) habit to a sustainable, community-supported skill. Mirroring beekeeping’s own ascendance, she found more than just a living: **“This is the first time in my life when I’ve just felt absolutely on the right path.”**