2015 BEGINNING BEEKEEPING SHORT COURSE
Saturday February 28th, 2015
Clay County Extension Office, Green Cove Springs, Florida

Pre-registration is requested by February 24th, 2015. There is a $13.00 registration fee ($20.00 per couple) for this course to cover the purchase of material. This is an interactive short course, where participants will be involved with working with an active hive on Extension Center property; all participants will be able to take home a jar of local honey. This course will allow the participants to receive a complete perspective of the process/expense involved with keeping honey bees. For additional information you can reach Michelle or David at 904-284-6355 or 904-269-6355.

Purpose of Course: Over the last decade, local honey bee colonies have had a major problem with two introduced honeybee pests (the Varroa Mite, and Small Hive Beetle). Currently there are few wild colonies in existence in Clay County and the only honey bees around are those being kept by a beekeeper. This has lead to serious pollination problems and the need to introduce more managed hives to our county. You can become part of the solution to our sparse pollination problem by becoming a beekeeper. In addition, with the imminent arrival of the Africanized Honey Bee to our area, there is a need to inform more people of the importance of having “managed” honeybee colonies to counter feral AHB colonies.

*Note: As this activity involves direct contact with a stinging insect, Youth (< 18) will not be permitted to interact with the “Open Hive” portion of the short course.
TENTATIVE SHORT COURSE SCHEDULE:

8:30 AM Registration
9:00 AM “The Nature of Bees” – Bee Biology
9:30 AM “Honeybee Equipment” - Woodenware, Protective Clothing, Tools, etc.
10:15 AM “Getting Started” - Packaged bees and queens, Installing Bees, Site Selection, etc.
11:15 AM “Hive-Side” Demonstrations*
12:30 PM Lunch - Sandwiches/ drinks sponsored by the Northeast Florida Honeybee Association. Different types of honey will be available for tasting.
1:30 PM “Managing Honeybees Through the Seasons” – Feeding, Pests, and Keeping Bees Healthy.
2:30 PM “Honeybee Resources” – websites, associations and other sources of information
2:45 PM “Regulations, Inspections, and Africanized bees”
3:15 PM Q & A/ Evaluation

*weather permitting

TO REGISTER, SEND BACK OF REGISTRATION FORM ATTACHED BY Feb. 24th, 2015.

David Nistler, Agriculture/ Small Farm/ Natural Resource Agent
University of Florida IFAS Clay County Extension
2015 BEGINNING BEEKEEPING SHORT COURSE
REGISTRATION FORM

2015 Beginning Beekeeping Short Course
Clay County Extension
P. O. Box 278
Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043-0278

*NOTE: Make checks out to “Clay County Extension” in the amount of $13.00 ($20.00 per couple) and return no later than Feb. 24th, 2014 – along with this registration form.

Name(s)/ address/email of those attending:


Day time Phone#: ________________________

Number attending: Adults: _____ Youth:_____  

*Youth may attend (less than 18 yrs. Old) but may not participate in the “Open Hive” portion of the course.