



## BEGINNING BEEKEEPING SHORTCOURSE

**Saturday, September 24, 2016**

**8:30 am – 3:30 pm**

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 led 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.

Pre-registration is requested by Tuesday, September 20, 2016. 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 understanding of the process/expense involved with keeping honey bees. For additional information you can reach Michelle Alters at 904-284-6355 or mdalters@ufl.edu.

\*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.

## TENATIVE SHORT COURSE SCHEDULE:

<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>“The Nature of Bees”</b> – Bee Biology
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>“Honeybee Equipment”</b> - Woodenware, protective clothing, tools, etc.
<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>“Getting Started”</b> - Packaged bees and queens, installing bees, site selection, etc.
<b>11:15 AM</b>	<b>“Hive-Side”</b> Demonstrations*
<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>Lunch</b> - Sandwiches/ Drinks, different types of honey will be available for tasting.
<b>1:30 PM</b>	<b>“Managing bees through the Seasons”</b> – Feeding, pests, and keeping bees healthy.
<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>“Honeybee Resources”</b> – websites, associations and other info sources
<b>2:45 PM</b>	<b>“Regulations, Inspections, and Africanized bees”</b>
<b>3:15 PM</b>	<b>Q &amp; A/ Evaluation</b>

\*weather permitting

**REGISTER ONLINE AT** <http://beeclass16.eventbrite.com>