

Fist Year Beekeeper Training

This course is being hosted by the Cook County Farm Bureau. It is taught by veteran beekeeper, Pete Soltesz, President of CookDupage Beekeeper's Association, and former Board of Directors, Illinois State Beekeeper's Association. Joining him will be Kim Kulton, Entomologist, business owner, and bee-farmer. Kim is also on the Board of the CDBA.

The course is designed for the first year beekeeper – whether you are just curious about beekeeping, or you've just installed your first package and are now wondering what you should do.

Emphasis will be on Seasonal activities, growing a healthy bee population, methods of monitoring and controlling varroa mites, and mitigating the swarm impulse. A healthy discussion around splits, supering, and queen rearing will be included. There will also be a demonstration of uncapping and extracting frames of honey.

Cost of the two-day course is \$75 for CCFB or CDBA members. Dates are Saturday, June 8th, and Sunday June 9th from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm at the Cook County Farm Bureau building in Countryside. It's a working lunch, bring your own. For more information, please contact Debbie Voltz. 708-354-3276 membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org

6438 Joliet Road, Countryside, Illinois

Saturday, June 8th

Morning Seasonal Management System

For each change of season, a discussion of what the bees are doing, where do they draw their resources, what poses any threat- be they predators, disease, insects, parasites, etc...; What are the Beekeeper's Best Practices, and what needs to happen to stay one step ahead:

- Spring Buildup
- Natural Pollen Sources
- Hive Body Rotation
- Inspections
- Healthy Brood Chambers
- Adding Supers
- Splits
- Recognizing the Flow
- Summer Solstice
- Harvest
- Dearth
- Robbing
- Fall Flow
- Winterizing

Afternoon Varroa Lifecycle & Control

Sunday, June 9th

Morning: The Swarm Impulse
 Signs to Recognize
 Steps to Mitigate

11:45 – 12:15 **Break**

12:15 – 1:00 **Working Lunch**
 Honey Harvest Demo – uncapping and extracting

1:00 PM – 3:00 Q&A – all topics