



ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPENING OF BEE SCHOOL

for
Practical Beekeeping
Winter/Spring 2025
Presented by
Essex County Beekeepers' Association, Inc.

<http://www.essexcountybeekeepers.org>

Practical Beekeeping: Essex County Beekeepers' Association is offering a nine week course for beginning beekeepers and others with an interest in bees. Practical Beekeeping is an introductory level course designed to provide students, with no previous knowledge or experience with beekeeping, the necessary information and skills to keep honeybees and produce honey and beeswax. The course will include instruction on bee biology, required equipment, setting up bee hives, acquiring and installing bees, managing bees through the seasons, harvesting bee products, introductions to local bee supply dealers, lessons on equipment and a demonstration involving live honeybees. Check the [ECBA Bee School web site](#) for updates and a course Syllabus.

At the end of the class, you will have the opportunity to be paired with a club member as a mentor to advise you during your foray into the wonderful world of beekeeping.

Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings, 7:00 to 9:00pm, from **Feb 18** through **April 15** in a hybrid format using

- 1) a limited in-person audience session at the Beekeeping Building (Topsfield Fairgrounds) and
- 2) a parallel online Zoom session.

All sessions are taught by experienced local instructors; all sessions include the opportunity for Q&A with the instructor.

In-person attendance

The fire code limits in-person attendance to 65 students; the in-person registration will be limited accordingly.

In-person students may use the online format as they wish. Zoom credentials will be sent to all students, whether online or in-person.

We expect in-person students to monitor their own health; if you have a runny nose, fever, a cough, headache, sore throat, etc, we expect you to protect your fellow students and opt for the online format.

Online attendance

The online classes will be conducted in Zoom; if you register for this format, you will receive a link to each meeting. You may **not** attend the in-person sessions.

Communication

The ECBA Bee School uses email to communicate with students. This includes links to the Zoom meetings, cancellations of in-person classes due to weather, etc. Cancellations will also be posted on the ECBA [website](#).

Tuition: adult: \$85; (Includes a single ECBA membership for 2025.)

youth: (12-18 years old): \$50 and requires an accompanying adult registration.

We expect that if multiple members of a family take the course, all those members will register and pay tuition.

Registration

Registration will open on **Jan 7, 2025** and close on **Jan 28, 2025**

To register and pay for the course, visit the ECBA Square Store <https://ecba-ma.square.site/shop/bee-school/3>

During registration, we ask for your name, phone number, postal address and email address. We will use the email address for communication with all students; please provide the email address that you use most frequently. We use your phone number if there are accuracy issues with the other information. We will use the postal address for our membership database. We do not sell or share this information with commercial interests.

Registration fees are refundable if cancelled on or before Feb 4, 2025.

Textbook

The textbook for the course is Beekeeping for Dummies, 5th edition. It is the **student's responsibility** to acquire this book.

For additional information please check the ECBA web site at

www.essexcountybeekeepers.org or email us at beeschool@essexcountybeekeepers.org