



WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

Current events from the Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association and bee news in general

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May Beekeeper's Meeting to be held at a new location

The Ashtabula County Beekeeper's Association meeting for May has changed locations and now will be held at the Jefferson United Methodist Church, 125 E Jefferson St, Jefferson, Ohio, 44047.

The church offers a larger meeting room and ample parking, and everything is on one level with no steps to walk down. This is the same location where the beginning beekeeping class was held.

There will be a potluck lunch at noon, so please join us and bring a dish to share. Beekeeping discussion will follow at 1 o'clock and the topic will be bee nutrition. The ACBA meeting will be held after the discussion.

ACBA Events at a glance

Next ACBA meeting:

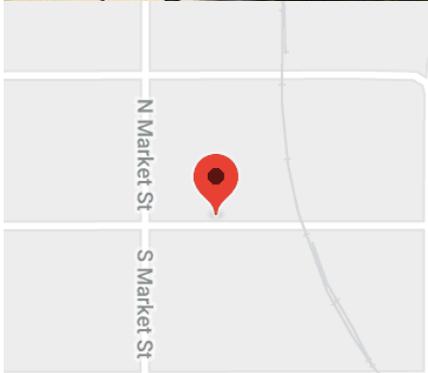
Saturday

May 19th

12pm

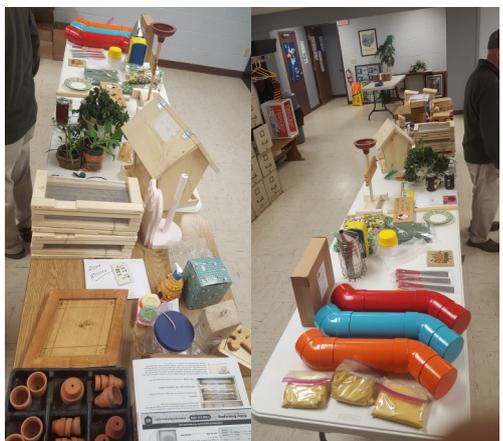
At the Jefferson United Methodist Church

You do not need to be a member to attend. Bring a dish to share.



The annual ACBA auction is a big success!

The annual beekeeping auction was held at the April meeting. The auction is always a popular event and this year was no different. ACBA members and others donated homemade and commercially-produced beekeeping products like hive tools, woodenware, a smoker, pollen feeders, plants, and more! Proceeds from the auction benefit the ACBA. Thank you to everyone who participated for making this event such a great success!



Items donated to the auction





TIPS FOR NEWBEES: Feeding

Now is the time to feed your bees, especially if they will need to build comb. Wax is a very labor-intensive product for the bees to produce, and they need a lot of it! Feed your bees 1:1 sugar water and keep feeding them until they stop taking it.

You can measure 1:1 using either weight or volume; the result will be nearly identical. Water weighs close to one ounce for every fluid ounce of volume, and sugar is similar. The old saying is "a pint's a pound the world around." 2 cups of water = 1 pint = 16 fluid ounces = 16 ounces by weight = 1 lb. 2 cups of sugar = 16 ounces by weight = 1 lb.

Make sure you take the sugar water away if the bees haven't consumed it in about a week.



Why aren't they drawing comb?

Bees don't always behave the way the beekeeper wants or expects, in part because bees sometimes have different goals in mind than what the beekeeper wants. This can result in frustration for the beekeeper. One common scenario is bees refusing to draw out wax on new foundation, whether the foundation is plastic or wax.

There are tips and tricks to getting bees to draw comb, including making sure they have enough food and maneuvering frames to encourage them to build where you want. You can read all about how to get your bees to build out drawn comb at [this link](#).

Gardening for bees



You can help your bees and other pollinators by planting flowers, trees, and shrubs that will provide bees with the resources they need: pollen and nectar.

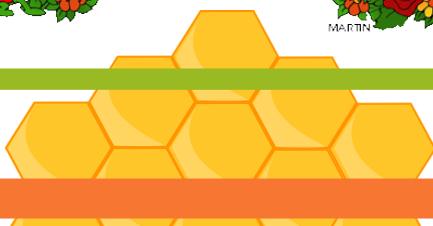
But knowing what to plant can be a daunting task. There is a lot of information to consider. You will need to know what kind of resource, if any, your potential plant choice will produce and when it will bloom. You need to know what soil, sun and water requirements the plant has. You need to know if the plant has been hybridized not to produce the resource you want and if it has been treated with pesticides.

You can find a lot of good information about pollinator-beneficial plants at [this link](#)

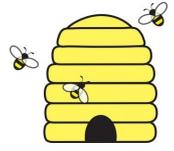
What's buzzing in my garden?

Honeybees aren't the only pollinators you are likely to see in your garden this summer. There are thousands of different types of bees, flies, and other insects that are attracted to your flowers and grasses. Many of these insects can look like honeybees but aren't. As a beekeeper, you may be well-versed in how to distinguish a honeybee from a hoverfly, but many of your loved ones may not be.

You can find a good article that easily breaks down the differences, with pictured examples, between many common garden insects that look or behave like bees at [this link](#)



Ashtabula County Beekeeper's Association news and events



Next meeting: Saturday, May 19th at new location: Jefferson United Methodist Church, 125 East Jefferson St. Potluck lunch @ 12pm followed by discussion @ 1pm. Topic will be bee nutrition. No cost to attend, you do not need to be a member. Please bring a dish or dessert to share.

Ag Day was May 11th. During Ag Day, all first graders in the county come to the fairgrounds and learn about various natural products produced in the county. Rosemary Burns organized ACBA's presentation on the importance of honeybees and their role in pollinating our fruits and vegetables.

Members only Field Day will be June 2 @ Jacob's farm, the same location as last year. Please RSVP to attend the Field Day. You must be a member to attend.

Meeting minutes for April meeting can be found at [this link](#)

The Ashtabula County Beekeeper's Association can be contacted through Facebook by clicking [this link](#) or by searching Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association.

Colors to attract pollinators

							
Bats Bees Beetle	Bats Butterfly Flies Moths	Bees Birds Butterfly	Birds Butterfly Moth	Bats Beetle	Birds Butterfly	Bees Flies	UV Bees
Birds Moth							

