

# Beginning Beekeeping Course Outline

Text: The Backyard Beekeeper, Kim Flottum (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)

- Week 1: Getting Ready –
  - Equipment, Tools, and Supplies
  - Local organizations, support network, and finding a mentor
  - “Neighbor Management”
- Please prepare for Week 2 by reading Introduction, all of Chapter One, and Chapter Three – pages 84-93.
- Week 2: Starting Out –
  - Siting your hive
  - Package/Nucleus colony installation
  - Spring feeding, why it’s important and when to stop
  - Looking for eggs and a healthy queen
- Please prepare for Week 3 by reading all of Chapter Two, and Chapter Three – pages 94-122, 126-129.
- Week 3: Summer Management –
  - Hive inspection – what are we doing in there?
  - Swarm management
  - Watching for disease
  - Queen issues: good, bad, and possible solutions
  - Integrated Pest Management – What’s Your Mite Count?!
- Please prepare for Week 4 by reading Chapter Three – pages 123-125, and all of Chapter Four.
- Week 4: Fall is approaching –
  - Treating for mites
  - Honey Harvest
  - Combining hives
- Please prepare for Week 5 by reading Chapter Three – pages 136-143.
- Week 5: Winter preparations and getting ready for next spring –
  - Readyng the hive for winter
  - Checking on the hive during winter
  - Winter feeding: candy boards
  - First spring inspection
  - Spring feeding and nuisance management
- Please prepare for the rest of your life by reading, reading, and reading.