

Basic Beekeeping Course

Baldwin County Beekeepers Association will once again sponsor a course in Basic Beekeeping for those interested in beginning beekeeping or for those interested in learning about beekeeping principles. This course was presented this past spring and based on the response and interest since that course, the beekeepers association has agreed to sponsor the course again in 2011. The objective of the course is to provide the information, advice and hands-on experience necessary for an individual with no beekeeping experience to acquire a colony of bees and manage them in a manner that meets acceptable beekeeping practices.

The course will consist of eight sessions beginning January 17, 2011 and meet bi-weekly with the last session scheduled in April. Each session will last approximately 2 hours and will begin at 7:00 pm. The course will meet at the Robertsdale Volunteer Fire Station located at the corner of Nebraska and St. Paul streets in Robertsdale Alabama.

Cost to attend the eight instructional sessions will be \$40.00 for each individual which includes "First Lessons in Beekeeping" a book on basic beekeeping by Dr. Keith Delaplane. For family members (husband, wife and children under the age of 18) attending the class together and sharing a book the cost will be \$40.00 for the first family member plus \$20.00 for each additional member of that family.

Cost of the equipment and bees necessary to start a hive is not included in the course fee and will vary depending on the quality of the equipment purchased and any equipment the individual may already possess, however for an individual with no equipment, the estimated cost for all the equipment and bees necessary to start one colony is approximately \$300.00.

The course outline, meeting dates and other information can be obtained from the Baldwin County Beekeepers Association web site at baldwinbees.com. To register for the course, contact Mr. Paul Loeffler at email b1paul@bellsouth.net or telephone 251-279-7733. Class size is limited to 35. Those interested in attending should register as soon as possible to reserve space in the class.