

# HoneybeeLives.org

## *A Naturalist's Approach to Beekeeping*



HoneybeeLives is an organization, based in the Hudson Valley, dedicated to encouraging a strong Honeybee population thru education and outreach to the general public and beekeepers. HoneybeeLives' in-depth workshops nurture beginning beekeepers and encourage veteran beekeepers to adopt a naturalist approach.

Teacher Chris Harp is an organic beekeeper and Bee Doctor. Harp's work comes from a deep caring and concern for the fragility of the Honeybee population, and a profound respect for the structure of their collective lives and their impact on the health of Mother Earth. Harp's goals are focused on the wellbeing of the colonies he nurtures, and through teaching others he raises the awareness of and caring for these amazing creatures.

### **SEASONAL CLASS OFFERINGS**

#### **BEE BUZZ FOR KIDS**

Introduce your children to the amazing world of Honeybees. Capture their attention and their imagination. Be a part of saving the Honeybee population through your children's education. Imagine letting them hold a frame from a hive, heavy with the weight of buzzing, docile Honeybees. Their eyes will open wide, and they will never see the world the same again.

**(Spring and Summer)**

#### **INTRO LECTURE ON BEES AND BEEKEEPING**

Learn about the lives of honeybees, the current plight of honeybee colonies, and the intrinsic value of nurturing these amazing creatures. **(Through out the year)**

#### **INTRO TO ORGANIC BEEKEEPING: PLANNING A NEW HIVE FOR SPRING**

Learn about the basic requirements and responsibilities for first-time beekeepers. Understand the mechanics of the hive and the tools involved, elements of site selection, and how to hear your bees' needs. **(Winter)**

#### **UNDERSTANDING AND CARING FOR YOUR BEES (ADVANCED CLASS)**

Topics will include: Hive congruency and design to benefit the colony; Bee health and disease management the natural way; Seasonal concerns and methods; as well as imparting the values of respecting the lives and needs of your bees. **(Winter)**

#### **HOW TO INSPECT, AND MAINTAIN, A HEALTHY HIVE.**

Hands-on work in the hive: cleaning burr comb, recognizing healthy brood patterns as well as signs of problems, mite treatments, watching and preparing for swarm season, and general overview of hives during main nectar flow. **(Spring and Early Summer)**

#### **HIVE MAINTAINANCE – FALL / WINTER PREP**

Learn about the life in the hive during this transitional time. Understand what you are looking at, and how to judge the strength of a hive. Learn how to clean up hives, and look for problems that might weaken your bees. Prepare for fall and winter, to best nurture the bees and boost their immune systems. Let us help you think thru your autumn tasks of fortifying your hives, and answer your questions. **(Late Summer/Early Fall)**

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