

What's the Buzz?

with Deez L'Town Beez

Apiary Start-Up Items

New beekeepers often ask, "What equipment do I need to get started?" You can buy ready-built and painted but not in cases (but more costly). Or, you can build your own. Here's my standard list for beginners:

- 1 case of 5 budget-grade deep hive bodies
- 1 case of 5 budget-grade medium hive bodies (supers) You'll use the extras for food surrounds if you use a pail or rapid feeders on top of the inner cover or for new colonies. If you plan to swing a hammer You'll need nails 1-1/4 or an air nail gun with appropriate staples for your tool. Plus wood glue for all the joints.
- 2-3 telescoping lids w/ inner cover
- 2-3 screened IPM bottom boards.
- 2-3 feeders. I prefer rapid feeders for the top or frame feeders for the inside (Amazon/Pierco/Mann Lake). I rarely use Boardman to limit robbing. I do use them for water in the yard.
- You'll need 2 for sure, 3 if you want to be prepared for swarms, (see Duke Jones FB posts from last year. 😊)
- I use a standard J-hook hive tool
- Pocket veil with helmet
- Or a full jacket with a fencing veil depending on who's bees I'm working. (do protect your eyes) gloves and a smoker. I wore gloves for two solid years. Now it depends on the bees. I got my smoker on Amazon in a kit with the hive tool and some other stuff I never use. Had it 5 years. Your budget will dictate.
- 2-cases of 30 rite cell plastic frames deep 2-cases of 30 rite cell plastic frames medium.
- Yes, it's 10 extra. You might need them eventually.
- If the bees will draw wax on the side of a house or in an old BBQ grill they will draw on plastic. Again, you choose for you. Plastic is easy to clean. Scrape and weather well plus less \$. You can rub wax or spray sugar water on them to entice them.
- 1 five-gallon bucket to haul it all around. (See bucket buddy w/ tools on my site)
- 1 bottle liquid Antihistamine
- 1-epi pen (I've never had a reaction but best to be prepared for a worst-case scenario.)

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STUFF YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO KNOW ABOUT



Earth Day Celebration

Summerseat Farm, Mechanicsville
April 22, 11-4pm



Earth Day Celebration

Leonardtown Square
April 22, 11-4pm



4-H Nature Fest

Tilghman Lake Park, LaPlata
April 22, 10-2pm



Garden Artisan Fair

Greenwell State Park, Hollywood
April 29, 11-4pm



ASMB Meeting at Shlagel Farm

More info to follow
May 13, 4pm



Spring Nucs for Sale

Over wintered colony - Proven Queen+5 frames of bees - brood and resources - Pick up in Leonardtown/Waldorf - 50% Deposit due @ time of order Spring delivery available +(fee) \$180 *CALL FOR WAITLIST

Class Dates at Deez's Apiary

- Installing Spring Packages 4/16
- Your First Inspection 4/30
- Beekeeper for a Day 5/18
- Making Nucs and Splits 5/21
- Honey Extraction TBD
- Splits for Varroa Control 7/09
- I Know it's Hot Out There 7/30
- Building My Apiary 8/13
- Scaling Back for the Winter 10/15
- Making Products from My Hive 11/12