

# What's the Buzz?

with DeeZ L'Town Beez

*Hello friends and fellow keepers!*

## ♥♥♥♥ The LOVE Language of the Hive ♥♥♥♥

Just like us, bees have their own love language. Instead of words or songs, they communicate through connection, scent, and dance. Bees "talk" through touch, gently brushing antennae to recognize one another and using their feet to measure their home. They're so devoted to this connection that they keep their antennae meticulously clean. They also speak through pheromones; each hive wrapped in its own signature scent. The queen's pheromone draws her family close, keeps harmony in the hive, and alerts everyone if danger is near. And then there's the waggle dance - the ultimate expression of devotion. With precise movements, bees share the location and quality of food or a future home. The more enthusiastic the dance, the stronger the recommendation. When it comes to choosing a new home, bees wait until everyone agrees; true commitment before making a move. In the bee world, love is teamwork, trust, and communication... all wrapped in a beautiful little dance.

## ♥♥♥♥ Bee Mine: Bee Kind ♥♥♥♥

Winter may feel quiet, but for pollinators, it's a season of rest and protection. While bees aren't buzzing through flowers right now, the choices we make in colder months can have a big impact come spring. Many native bees overwinter in leaf litter, hollow plant stems, soil, and wood. By leaving fallen leaves in garden beds and resisting a full winter cleanup, we give them a cozy place to ride out the cold. A slightly messy garden isn't neglect, it's kindness. Being "bee kind" also means watching what we use around our homes. Skipping pesticides and herbicides prevents lingering chemicals from harming pollinators later, and choosing sand or bee-friendly ice melt over heavy salt reduces environmental stress.

Winter is also the perfect time to plan for blooms ahead. Ordering native plants and early spring flowers like crocus, snowdrops, hellebore, and willow ensures much-needed food when bees first emerge. Leaving seed heads standing provides both shelter and nourishment.

And remember, honey bees aren't the only pollinators who need care. Native bees, many of them solitary, rely on standing stems, undisturbed soil, and natural spaces to survive winter.

Sometimes the kindest action is doing less: less cleaning, less spraying, less disturbance. This season, bee mine and bee kind by giving pollinators the space and safety they need. A little love now helps ensure a buzzing, blooming spring for us all. ♥♥♥



## STUFF YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO KNOW



Annmarie Gardens -  
Valentines Makers Market  
February 7th, 9am-2pm



Building My Apiary Class @  
Deez Apiary, Leonardtown  
February 22nd, 3pm-5pm



Building Your Equipment Class  
@ Deez Apiary, Leonardtown  
March 1st, 3pm-5pm

## NAHBE 2027

No, that's not my favorite password... NAHBE stands for the North American Honey Bee Expo, and it buzzed into Kentucky last month! I had the chance to attend alongside a few fellow beekeepers, and it was packed with learning, inspiration, and more bee talk than you could imagine.

There was so much to see and do that I put together a handy Tips & Tricks roundup for anyone thinking about attending next year. If NAHBE 2027 is on your radar, you'll definitely want to check it out. You can find it on my Facebook page.

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Happy Keeping!