

What's the Buzz? Beekeeping information and resources

The season for local honey is right around the corner! Each year Anson Extension helps connect buyers and sellers of local honey. Have you ever wondered if beekeeping was something you could enjoy to extract your own honey, or simply enjoy as an activity? Would you like to learn more about hobby beekeeping in Anson Co. and the Carolinas? Here are four sources of research-based information to help you learn more about this exciting hobby; from local chapters to online beginner apiculture classes.

The Anson County Beekeepers Association meets monthly, January through October, at Welika Fish House Restaurant at 7 p.m. on the 4th Thursday of each month. Visitors are welcome. A 1 to 2 hour beekeeping presentation follows their regular business meeting.



A beekeeper smokes a hive to examine bees and frames within a colony.

This is a great place for continuing education, to meet local beekeepers, and learn honeybee biology, seasonal hive maintenance, problem-solving, and get an idea of the time and money commitment beekeeping requires.

Another resource for beginners of all levels is NC State University's online course called Beekeeper Education and Engagement System (BEES). It's available to the public for a minimal fee and taught by NC State Professor and Extension Apiculture Specialist, Dr. David Tarpy. Participants learn at their own pace, and can select topics of interest.

NC State's Apiculture and Beekeeping site also has a collection of beekeeping publications, free webinars, and FAQs. entomology.ces.ncsu.edu/apiculture

Finally, the NC State Beekeepers Association Summer Meeting will be held in Hickory, NC August 8-10 at the Hickory Metro Convention Center. Attending an association meeting is a great opportunity to meet other beekeepers, talk to vendors, browse equipment, and hear from an array of specialists during break-out sessions.

Beekeeping is a activity enjoyed by more than 10,000 people in North Carolina. NC has more beekeepers than any other state in the nation. Aspiring beekeepers interested in participating in a group Beekeeper Education and Engagement System (BEES) short-course at Anson Extension this fall please contact Horticulture Agent Aimee Colf at aimee_colf@ncsu.edu or 704-694-2415.

June Mobile Food Pantry Information

Margot Barnes, Director of Anson Crisis Ministry has released statistics from the June Mobile Food Pantry which was held on Wednesday, June 5.

Barnes said, "Thank you to the 31 volunteers!"

- Total Families: 86
- New Families: 2
- Children & Youth Under Age 18: 44
- Youth & Adults Ages 19-64: 85
- Adults Over Age 65: 44

"Anson Crisis Ministry brought home 2,655 lbs. of undistributed food," added Barnes. "Thank you! A great deal of food was distributed!"

Anson Crisis Ministry is located at 117 North Rutherford Street in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-2445, email is ansoncrisisministry@windstream.net and the website is www.ansoncrisisministry.org.

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