

# VIRGINIA BEEKEEPING RESOURCES

CONTACT INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**Virginia State Beekeeping Association**  
www.virginiabeekeepers.org

**Virginia State Apiarist,  
Endangered Species Coordinator**

Keith Tignor  
PO Box 1163  
Richmond, VA 23218  
**TEL:** 804-786-3515  
keith.tignor@vdacs.virginia.gov  
www.tinyurl.com/59kmow

**Regional Bee Inspector**

(Northern VA)  
Bob Wellemeyer  
**TEL:** 540-347-6380, 540-428-0420  
robert.wellemeyer@vdacs.virginia.gov

**Virginia Polytechnic Institute**

Professor Dept. of Entomology  
Richard Fell, Ph.D.  
324 Price Hall  
Blacksburg, VA 24061  
**TEL:** 540-231-7207  
rfell@vt.edu

## DID YOU KNOW?

*1 in 3 bites of the average  
American meal can be directly  
attributed to honeybee pollination.*

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*The honeybee's "waggle dance," a  
method of providing directions to  
food sources, is the only known  
symbolic language existing outside  
of humans and lower primates.*

## Sustainable agriculture grant awarded!



In 2008, the PWRBA was a recipient of a Southern SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education) grant.

Through this grant we hope to promote sustainable beekeeping practices through local production of nucs (nucleus colonies) and local queen honeybees.

## PWRBA OBJECTIVES

- **To provide a forum** for the exchange of ideas and views of mutual interest to beekeepers.
- **To provide education** on the practical aspects of beekeeping and encourage the use of better and more productive methods in the apiary.
- **To foster cooperation** between members of the association.
- **To promote understanding** and cooperation between the association and the community with regard to beekeeping.
- **To promote the use of honey** and honey products.

## The Prince William Regional Beekeepers Association

*Come join us! We welcome newcomers  
and would be happy to help you get  
started in your beekeeping adventure!*

pwrbeekeepers@gmail.com  
pwrbeekeepers.com

**PRESIDENT** Keith Fletcher  
703-887-6071



*Promoting Responsible  
and Sustainable  
BEEKEEPING*



## WHY DO WE NEED MORE BEEKEEPERS?

Beekeeping is a great family hobby. More importantly perhaps, native pollinators are no longer available in large numbers. The health of honeybees has been in decline for years threatened by various pests and lack of forage.

## BEEKEEPING IN A NUTSHELL

Many agree that the first evidence of beekeeping appears in the paintings of ancient Egypt. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that there are over 200,000 beekeepers in the United States. The vast majority of beekeepers are hobbyist beekeepers that manage less than 25 hives. Commercial beekeepers

who manage more than 300 colonies work long hours in the spring and summer. They examine their hives to ensure the colony has a healthy queen bee and that the colony is clean and free from disease. To keep their hives strong, beekeepers must place their hives in locations that will provide abundant nectar sources as well as water. Beekeepers harvest their honey in late spring to early

fall, depending on the honey flows. In Virginia, most of the honey is gathered in late spring and early summer.

## ABOUT THE PWRBA

### MEMBERSHIP

Our membership consists of folks from Prince William, Fauquier, Stafford, and Fairfax counties. Dues are \$20 per family per year and include use of club honey extractor.

### MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the PWRBA are held the 2nd Tuesday of January, March, May, September, and November at the Manassas Church of the Brethren (10047 Nokesville Rd, Manassas, VA 20110). Please check the website to confirm dates and location. Everyone is welcome!

### BEEKEEPING CLASSES

Introductory beekeeping classes are held every winter in several Northern Virginia locations.

### MORE INFO?

To find additional information or learn more about us, be sure to visit us at our website: [www.pwrbeekeepers.com](http://www.pwrbeekeepers.com)



*Bee on an Aster*

*Beekeeper Checking Hives*