

## Class Structure

9 classes, one Saturday (May session is on Sunday) per month March-October

3-4 hour sessions: 2 hour discussions followed by practical lab.  
Classes held at the Growing Gardens Greenhouse, 1630 Hawthorn Boulder, CO.

Beekeepers with some experienced are welcome to drop-in any class for a fee of \$60.00

Cost: \$400 per person this includes a \$40 instructional materials fee and supplies. The classes are recommended as a series, registering for all classes allows you to attend the last class free.

To register go to [www.growinggardens.org](http://www.growinggardens.org) select Education then Beekeeping or for more information, email [julie@growinggardens.org](mailto:julie@growinggardens.org) or Julie a call at 303-443-9952 ext 3

Note the July and August classes are off site practical labs.

Growing Gardens  
1630 Hawthorn Ave  
Boulder, CO 80304  
[www.growinggardens.org](http://www.growinggardens.org)  
(303) 443-9959 ext 3

# learn about Beekeeping



*“Julie was inspirational... her knowledge base [and] experience is remarkable”*

*“I’ve met all the children in my neighborhood, because of the bee suit. My friends love the honey, too.”*

*“Julie’s willingness to make herself available and to facilitate our individual situations was really appreciated”*

Come join us for a hands-on series of classes and labs to experience the culture of the honeybee and foster our connections to the land, environment and each other while gaining confidence in keeping your own bees.



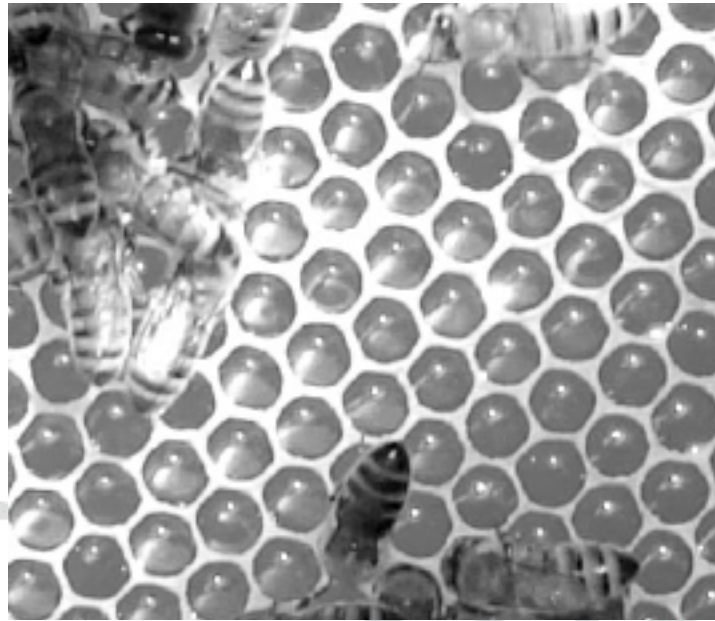
GROWING GARDENS  
Cultivating Community

How can you become involved with the care of these wonderful insects? In what way do current practices not support a symbiotic or respectful relationship with honeybees and other pollinators? How can we work with the bees and safeguard them?

Class materials and methods will focus on the Top Bar Hive, and a natural means of raising bees. Top Bar Hives are an appropriate technology hive they have proven to be a great system for backyard and small scale hobbyist.

Instructor Julie Finley has been the Garden Director for the past nine years with Growing Gardens, has been raising her own bees for 12 years and is one of the featured beekeepers in Sister Bee, a local, independent documentary.

All proceeds from the class support the Bee-keeping Project with ¡Cultiva! Youth Project of Growing Gardens. The youth currently keep 20 colonies and hope to increase that number in 2010.



**Class I-Introduction: Date: Saturday, March 6th, 2010 Time: 9:00-12:00**

Meet the instructor, share expectations and goals for the course. We will explain the top bar method and the basics of beekeeping. There will be a demonstration hive available for inspection and plans for building your own top bar hive and information for purchasing supplies and bees.

**Class II- Understanding the Bees: Date: Saturday, April 3rd, 2010 Time: 9:00-12:00**

We will meet the caste of bees that live in a colony and cover the ecology of honeybees. In the lab we will learn about hive preparation, how to install packaged bees or swarms, and what to look for in your new colony.

**Class III-Colony Care I: Date: Sunday, May 2nd, 2010 Time: 9:00-12:00**

You will learn how to handle combs, troubleshoot problems, manage build-up, and maintain the overall health of the hive. The lab will apply the knowledge gained from the class through hands-on beekeeping.

**Class IV- Colony Care II: Date: Saturday, June 5th, 2010 Time: 9:00-12:00**

We will review how to maintain healthy colonies and discuss sustainable agriculture practices and methodologies. In the lab we will review proper handling of the combs, assessing queen vitality and brood development and we will learn how to observe honey flow and colony strength through the seasons.

**Class V-Practical Lab I: Date: Saturday, July 10th, 2010 Time: 9:00-1:00 \*off-site\***

In this four hour lab you will have the opportunity to gain confidence and familiarity with honeybees and learn how to work a top-bar hive successfully. You will gain knowledge in how to manage hives for optimum honey production and colony health. We will begin the harvest of Cultiva honeycomb for Farmer's Market sales.

**Class VI-Practical Lab II: Date: Saturday, August 7th, 2010 Time: 9:00-1:00 \*off-site\***

This class will give you a chance to improve your skills and gain more experience handling combs and bees. We will continue to harvest honey. We will discuss and practice sustainable techniques for monitoring and preventing diseases and parasites.

**Class VII-Fall and Winter Care: Date: Saturday, Sept. 11th, 2010 Time: 9:00-12:00**

In this class we will review the use and application of Formic acid, Oxalic acid, herbal bee calm and other preparations for maintaining a healthy hive. We will also learn alternative honey processing techniques. We will also learn the steps needed to prepare the hives for winter and demonstrate a variety of winterization techniques unique to top bar hive management.

**Class VIII-Honeybees Give Us More Than Honey: Date: October 2nd, 2010 Time: 9:00-1:00**

Here we will learn how to process wax and how to make mold candles, salves and lip balms. This 4 hour practical lab will be devoted to making samples of these various products and enjoying the fruits of your labor