

Berkshire Backyard Beekeepers

Tuesday, June 11, 2019 - 6pm - Berkshire Botanical Garden

Group Hive Check-in: Open Q&A amongst beekeepers

Upcoming beekeeping workshops and events:

- **Mass. Beekeeping Association Summer Field Day** - June 15 - UMASS Agricultural Learning Center, 911 North Pleasant St., Amherst
- **Betterbee Annual Field Day** - June 26 - Washington County Fairgrounds, NY (various other programs throughout the summer)
- **Fall Hive Management** - August 24, 10 am-noon - Berkshire Botanical Garden
- **UMass Pollinator Resources** (included classes throughout Massachusetts):
 - <https://ag.umass.edu/resources/pollinators>

Hive Inspections: Group discussion around tips and best practices when inspecting hives.

Selected June beekeeping activities:

- Inspect hives every 10 days to two weeks: confirm presence of queen, evaluate brood pattern, and ensure she has enough open comb to lay. Consider requeening if necessary.
- Monitor for swarming.
- Add supers to hives with full brood chambers. At this time of year, multiple supers can be added at the same time.
- If hives are full and all available frames on hives, consider extracting some honey to make space.
- Consider splitting strong colonies.
- Look out for swarms. Have additional hive equipment ready.
- Ensure bear fences are on and working.
- Keep plants mowed around hives and electric fences.
- Monitor for pests including testing for Varroa levels.

Select Notable Nectar and Pollen Sources in June: Black locust, tulip poplar, hawthorn, autumn olive, willow, dandelion, oak, apple, cherry, plum, honeysuckle, pear, white and yellow sweetclover, blackberries, raspberries, blueberries, strawberries, European linden, and many others!

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 9 at 6pm