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Local bees, simple equipment, sustainable methods. Everything you need to start your natural approach to keeping bees and managing them successfully in Layens Horizontal Hives.

Keeping bees can actually be simple, sustainable, and rewarding but many begin their beekeeping journey wondering “how do I get started?”, “what equipment should I use?”, or “how do I take care of the bees?” and have the added pressure to just do what everyone else is doing. If you’re looking for something different, natural, and sustainable then the [**Spring Sustainable Beekeeping Bootcamp**](https://wildhives.com/shop#shop-events) is for you.

Beginner beekeepers or those just contemplating having bees will learn what it means to use a more natural and sustainable approach to beekeeping. Experienced beekeepers, who have started using stackable boxes, who seek ways to keep their bees treatment-free with minimal intervention will gain insights that can be applied to their existing colonies.

**Sonja and Rob Brock** began beekeeping in 2018.  Through much reading, research and review they selected the Layens Horizontal Hive as the style they would use for keeping bees.  Since then, they have only managed free living, local overwintered bees that each spring they collected through targeted swarm trapping to assure colonies were wild or at least feral.  They follow a natural, no treatment, sustainable beekeeping management process and have expanded their apiary to 26+ colonies in 2024 with plans to reach 64 colonies in 2027.  They started their company, Wild Hives, in 2021 and sell Layens Equipment, provide training and mentoring, and locally adapted overwintered bees for local pickup in SW Ohio.  Wild Hives currently provides workshops on the Layens Horizontal Hive Style on site at their Bethel Apiary and their Backyard Apiary in Maineville.  Sonja and Rob love working with beginner beekeepers and feel it's their mission to help them as well as those interested in using Layens Hives to be SUCCESSFUL in their beekeeping journey.

**Spring Sustainable Beekeeping Bootcamp**

The 5 (2 Hour) sessions will include classroom and onsite training, information for natural and sustainable beekeeping approaches at each step, and clear explanations of all topics while providing real life training through hands-on experience for every attendee.

**Bootcamp limited to 10 attendees**

**Schedule**

All Sessions will be on Saturdays from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Saturday, March 29th – Hive/Session Reviews, Swarm Trapping, and Equipment Check (Mainville Classroom)

Saturday, April 5th – Spring Inspections (Bethel Apiary)

Saturday, April 26th – Spring Splits & Build Your Own Nuc (Bethel Apiary)

Saturday, May 3th – Queen Cells & What to do with them? (Bethel Apiary)

Saturday, May 31th – Laying Queens and Colony Health Check (Bethel Apiary)

Note: Based on forecasted weather some dates may need to be changed due to the inability to open the hives. Date changes will be communicated to each attendee via the email address they have provided at registration.

**Location Addresses**

* Mainville Classroom – 8565 Southland Dr, Maineville OH 45039
* Bethel Apiary – 2805 Moore Rd, Bethel OH 45106

**Cost Options**

* **$200** Layens Bootcamp Only
* **$400** Layens Bootcamp & Build Your Own Nuc

Note:

* Upon registration through our [wildhives.com](https://wildhives.com/shop#shop-events) shop page we will email you an invoice. **Full payment** to hold your place in our limited capacity bootcamp will be required by **March 2nd, 2025**
* Contact us for special pricing if additional family members are planning to attend.

**Cancellation Policy**

Registration fees are fully refundable up to one week prior to the date of the first session. No refunds are offered after this time. To receive a refund contact us at [wildhivesllc@gmail.com](mailto:wildhivesllc@gmail.com).

**REQUIRED to bring to all sessions**

* Beekeeper Suit/Jacket w/Veil or Veil only (in this case you must also have a long sleeve shirt or jacket)
* Gloves
* Long pants
* Closed toe shoes (boots are recommended on the apiary since in the spring the location might be muddy)
* Smoker (bring your choice of fuel and ignition method)
* Hive tool
* Bee Brush
* Water (something to drink)

Note: There are NO restroom facilities at our Apiary. Please take advantage before or after our sessions of the restaurants as well as gas stations in the area.

**Questions**

If you have any questions, please email us at wildhivesllc@gmail.com or call (513) 444-7819. We look forward to meeting you at the Spring Sustainable Beekeeping Bootcamp and helping you be **SUCCESSFUL**!

**Register Today!**

A person and person wearing white protective gear

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