



Beekeeping – Project Information

Douglas County 4-H, 2020-2021

Unit 1 is the only unit that will be offered this year

Unit 1 Overview:

- Shadow an experienced beekeeper and learn to use equipment, open the hive, and clean up procedures.
- Learn about the history of beekeeping and why honey bees are valuable. Learn about the three different types of honey bees, their anatomy and life stages.
- Observe what happens at the entrance of a hive.
- See the different activities of the honey bee.
- Catalogue various species of flowers and observe the bees landing on the blooms.
- Lease, obtain equipment and take care of honey bees.

• Project Leader:

- Roisin McEwen
- Email: roisinmcewen5@gmail.com
- Phone: 303-882-5766

• Project Start & End Date:

- The project starts in February and ends at Douglas County Fair.

• Project Required Materials:

- #1) Beekeeping Unit 1 E-Record + Unit 1 Manual
 - Available on the Douglas County 4-H website
 - **Cost:** FREE
 - <https://douglas.extension.colostate.edu/4-h/programs-2/generalnatural-resources/>
- #2) Child Bee Suit and Gloves (if you need financial assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to Nicole.speeding@colostate.edu)
 - **A) Suit:** <https://www.mannlakeltd.com/economy-hooded-suit>
 - **Cost:** May vary
 - **B) Gloves:** <https://www.mannlakeltd.com/shop-all-categories/protective-gear/gloves>
 - **Cost:** May vary
 - A child's bee suit is important to observe a beekeeper at their apiary. Parents are welcome to participate (Roisin has three adult bee suits available to borrow at her apiary) and will probably need to help elementary aged children with the required reading and photography. Roisin's hive is located in northwest Douglas County can be used for observations and activities.
- #3) Purchase the book: The New Starting Right with Bees
 - **Cost:** About \$13
 - **Source:** <https://www.mannlakeltd.com/starting-right-with-bees>





- **Project Optional (Recommended) Materials & Resources:**

- *Colorado State Beekeepers Association*
 - Email: info@coloradobeekeepers.org
- *National Honey Board*
 - Phone: 303-776-2337
 - www.honey.com
- *To Bee or Not to Bee Store (LOCAL)*
 - Phone: 303-728-4422
 - Physical Address: 8250 W Coal Mine Ave Ste 16, Littleton, CO 80123
- *Roisin's favorite book for introducing children (and adults often) to honeybees is:*
 - The Life and Times of the Honeybee by Charles Micucci
 - **Cost:** About \$8
 - **Source:** Amazon
- *Roisin's favorite book for introducing the health benefits of honey to adults is:*
 - The New Honey Revolution by Ron Fessenden, MD, MPH
 - **Cost:** About \$13
 - **Source:** Amazon
- Any Colorado flower identification book to identify the flowers the bees are visiting

- **Project Requirements:**

- Must be currently enrolled in the 2020-2021 4-H year as a member in good standing.
- Must be currently enrolled in the Beekeeping, Unit 1 Project.
- **Deadline to register for BEEKEEPING Project is: March 1, 2020**
 - Beekeeping is a seasonal project due to the nature of honeybees; beginning in February and ending July/August time to check the hives.
- A completed e-record book and tri fold poster are required at Exhibit Day & Fair to complete the project. An interview will also be strongly suggested at Exhibit Day, but not required.
- **Presently, children will need to list Sedalia Spurs as their *secondary* 4-H club if they already are members of another 4-H club because so far, Roisin is the only Beekeeping Project Leader in Douglas County.** (Perhaps other 4-H leaders who are beekeepers will show an interest in leading this project also.)

We would like to have an in-person, hands on, fun County workshop for the beekeeping project as soon as COVID allows. If you have any questions about this project, you are welcome to reach out to Roisin McEwen, Project Leader (contact information listed above) or Nicole Speeding, Douglas County 4-H Agent at nicole.speeding@colostate.edu.

