

4-H Busy Bees 2023 Program Rules and Contract

McDowell County 4-H is pleased that you are interested in our 4-H Busy Bees Program and 4-H Club. This is a program designed to mentor students for integration into the local beekeeping culture. The Busy Bees program is open to any student, ages 8-18 and grades 3-12, who are currently enrolled in McDowell County 4-H.

Beekeeper Essay Writing Requirements

Ages 8-11

Minimum Requirements: Topic expository paragraph should be seven to nine sentences long. An introduction sentence, three to five sentences of background research sentences, two sentences for what the participant will be watching, expecting to learn, and a closing sentence. Maximum length for this age group is sixteen sentences.

Ages 12-15

Minimum Requirements: Three paragraph expository essay, each paragraph should be five to nine sentences long. First, an introduction paragraph that gives background research of the topic. Second and third paragraphs explain what the participant will be watching, expecting to learn, how they will be using and working the bees during the season, and data they will be tracking. Maximum essay length accepted for this age category is 5 paragraphs.

Ages 16-18

Minimum Requirements: Five paragraph expository essay, each paragraph should be five to twelve sentences long. An introduction paragraph that sets up the essay, one or two background research paragraphs, one or two methods paragraphs of what the participant will be doing with the equipment during the season, what type of data he/she will be collecting and a closing paragraph. Maximum length for this age category is a seven paragraph essay.

****Application sheet and essay are due by March 31st, 2023.*

Each of the participants will receive the following to help them be a successful beekeeper:

- Package of bees (date and type of honey to be determined)
- Hive-build/pick up date will be determined with the 4-H Volunteer Mentor
- Assigned mentor from the McDowell County Beekeepers Association for duration of the year
- Membership with McDowell County 4-H Program with recognition of project, 4-H bee resources

Equipment and Maintenance

1. Bees, equipment and tools provided must be kept and cared for properly.
2. The participant and McDowell County 4-H will jointly own the bees, equipment, and tools until the conclusion of the program (one calendar year); at that point, they will become property of the participant.
3. At the end of the calendar year, the participant is encouraged to be a youth mentor for the next year.
4. The participant agrees to pay any additional costs associated with the program. (If needed)
5. If the participant moves from McDowell County or does not follow the provisions of this contract, they will forfeit their ownership of any bees, equipment or tools supplied by McDowell County 4-H to McDowell County 4-H.
6. The participant hereby acknowledges that the McDowell County 4-H and the McDowell County Beekeepers Association assume no responsibility for any accident that may occur during your participation in this program.

Academic and Community Service

1. Participants will send a "Thank You" note to their sponsors **through McDowell County 4-H**, no later than October 25, 2023.
2. Participants/families will keep regular communication, email/phone contact, with Chad Ray, McDowell 4-H Agent. This will include sharing your "learning objective" assignments, coordination of speaking assignments if invited, hive checks and any other necessary communication. Participants will supply a 4-H project record book to McDowell 4-H by no later than February 1st, 2024.
3. Participants **will attend at least 8 of the 11** 4-H Busy Bees 4-H club meetings.
4. One public speaking engagement which may include any of the following venues; association meetings, local city days, fairs, and/or school classrooms. Can be determined and scheduled by the 4-H agent.

The application/ contract is to be properly signed and returned to McDowell County 4-H via email or delivered to the McDowell County Extension Office by March 31st, 2023 along with the essay portion.

Chad Ray
Extension Agent 4-H Youth Development
60 East Court St
Marion NC 28752
(828) 652-8104
Chad_ray@ncsu.edu

McDowell 4-H Busy Bees Beekeeping Project

4-H Application & Contract 2023

Participant Name: _____ Age (as of Jan. 1, 2023) _____

Mailing Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Email: _____

Physical Address where the bees will be kept: _____

I have attached/included my essay with this application packet.

I understand and accept the program contract guidelines.

My 4-H Online registration will be completed by March 31, 2023

Required Signatures

Applicant: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Contact Information:
Chad Ray
Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
60 East Court St
Marion, NC 28752
(828) 652-8104
Chad_Ray@ncsu.edu

[Thank You Format]

EXAMPLE Thank You letter

Date

Dear Donor,

Thank you for your part in helping me to begin my first year in 4-H beekeeping. I am going to keep track of the following things:

I am especially interested in being this kind of beekeeper:

Included is a photo of me working my hives. You have helped make all this possible.

Thanks so much,

(Your Name...)