



Tri-County Beekeepers Association Inc.

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## 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Beekeeping Workshop

### March 6-7, 2026 - Wooster, Ohio

***“Bringing the BUZZ Back to Beekeeping”***

Dear Beekeeper,

We are planning for the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Beekeeping Workshop in Wooster, Ohio on Friday March 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>. As in the past, it will be held at Fisher Auditorium and Shisler Conference Center on the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) campus, located at 1680 Madison Ave. (at State Route 302 east and State Route 83) just south of Wooster. Last year, the workshop participants were not only from Ohio but several neighboring states.

On Friday evening, March 6<sup>th</sup> the **Bug Zoo** will be open from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. for tours. At Fisher Auditorium from 7:00 to 8:00 pm, you may choose to attend **“The Crazy World of Robber Bees”** by Dr. James Tew or attend **“Honey Bee Biology for Beginners”** presented by Mr. Jeff Gabric.

On Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> the workshop will begin with opening comments by Mr. Randall Westfall, Workshop Committee Chairman of TCBA in the Auditorium. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Meghan Milbrath. Three workshop sessions will follow. Each session will have four different breakout topics from which to choose. One of the breakout topics in each session will include a beginner beekeeping session.

**Workshop registration takes place on Friday from 5:00 to 8:00 pm and on Saturday, 8:00 to 9:00 am.**

**Hilton Garden Inn**, 959 Dover Road, Wooster, which is within sight of OSU's Fisher Auditorium. The room rate is \$138.00 per night plus tax for 1 king. For reservations go to <https://group.hiltongardeninn.com/znlmn> or call **(330) 202-7701 and use the code “BEES”**. For more information their web page is: [www.wooster.stayhgi.com](http://www.wooster.stayhgi.com)

There will be a block of rooms at **Best Western**, 243 East Liberty Street, Wooster, which is not far from Fisher Auditorium. The room rate will be \$115.99 per night plus tax for 1 king or 2 double beds. Deluxe hot breakfast which is included in the room rate will be served at 6am. Please call to reserve a room as they will go quickly.

**(330) 264-7750 or (800) 528-1234 toll free or use:**

[https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.36082.html?groupId=X87WL1N2](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.36082.html?groupId=X87WL1N2)

**Comfort Suites** 965 Dover Road, Wooster, which is within sight of OSU's Fisher Auditorium. The room rate is \$138.00 per night plus tax for 2 queen beds. For reservations go to <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/KY10X5> (Group Number KY10X5) or call **(330) 439-0190 and use the code “BEEKEEPERS”** or click the link on our website under workshop.

---TENTATIVE PROGRAM---

**FRIDAY EVENING – March 6, 2026:**

5:00 - 8:00 pm	Registration Open (Lobby in front of Fisher Auditorium)
5:00 - 6:30 pm	Tours of the Bee Museum (meet at registration table; tours leave every 15 minutes)
6:30 - 9:00 pm	Vendors are open at their discretion.
7:00 – 8:00 pm	<b>Fisher Auditorium:</b> “ <i>The Crazy World of Robber Bees</i> ” by Dr. Jim Tew <b>Fisher Conference Room:</b> “ <i>Honey Bee Biology for Beginners</i> ” by Mr. Jeff Gabric
8:00 – 9:00 pm	Social Hour – Cookies, coffee, and punch &/or tea



**SATURDAY – March 7, 2026:**

8:00 – 9:00 am	Registration
8:00 – 9:30 am	Honey Recipe Contest entries submitted (JM Smucker room)
8:00 - 8:50 am	Marcus Ladrach and Friends – Fisher Auditorium
8:00 – 9:00 am	Coffee, tea, hot chocolate and delicious Troyer’s Home Pantry donuts and sweet rolls

Fisher Auditorium:

9:00 – 9:30 am	Welcome and opening remarks by Mr. Randall Westfall, TCBA Workshop Committee Chairman
9:30 – 10:30	<b>Keynote Address – “<i>Amazing Anatomical Adaptations of Apis Mellifera</i>” by Dr. Megan Milbrath</b>
10:30 -10:45 am	Break
10:45 – 11:45 am	<b>Workshop Session 1</b>

- **Auditorium** “*Selection of Varroa Resistant Honey Bees and Their Effective Use Across the Country*” by Dr. Mike Simone-Finstrom
- **Shisler A** “*Herbs, Teas and Bees*” by Ms. Natalie Friedrich
- **Shisler B** “*Those Venerable, Villainous Vespids: My Love/Hate Relationship*” by Mr. Jeff Goff
- **Fisher D** “*Preparing Honey Products for Competition*” by Ms. Peggy Garnes
- **Fisher Conference Room** “*Hive Parts, Accessories, Tools, and Choosing a Hive Location*” by Mr. Ray Wirt

**LUNCH – Two lunch periods and Bug Zoo tours**

1. Noon to 12:45 pm
2. 12:45 to 1:30 pm

**The BUG ZOO in the Wooster Science Building across from Shisler entrance will also be open 12-2 for tours. If it is not your time to have lunch, please take the time to visit our vendors. They not only have all the supplies you will need; they also have a wealth of knowledge.**

**1:30 – 2:30 pm      Workshop Session 2**

- Auditorium ***Honey Bee Nutrition*** by Dr. Meghan Milbrath
- Shisler A ***The Hive Within- What Bees Teach Us About the Human Nervous System*** by Dr. Jim Powell
- Shisler B ***Controlling Varroa and Viruses Through Integrated Pest Management (IPM)*** by Dr. Mike Simone-Finstrom
- Fisher D ***Infusion For Life and Health*** by Ms. Natalie Friedrich
- Fisher Conference Room ***Sources of Bees/Races of Bees and Pests and Diseases*** by Mr. Jeff Gabric

**2:30 -2:45 pm      Break**

**2:45 – 3:45 pm      Workshop Session 3**

- Auditorium ***Dealing With Dead-outs*** by Dr. Meghan Milbrath
- Shisler A ***Wax Products*** by Ms. Natalie Friedrich
- Shisler B ***Bee Venom Therapy(BTV)*** by Ms. Connie Skolnicki
- Fisher D ***Preparing Wax Products For Competition*** by Ms. Peggy Garnes
- Fisher Conference Room ***Bee Installation and Feeding Bees*** by Mr. Ray Wirt

**4:00 – 4:45 pm      Fisher Auditorium: *“What’s on Your Mind?”* (Q & A session with our speakers.**  
E-mail your questions to [educationcommittee@tricountybeekeepers.org](mailto:educationcommittee@tricountybeekeepers.org)

**4:00-4:45 pm During the Q&A Recipe Contest, Guessing Contest and 50/50 as well as education raffle winners and closing comments in auditorium**

**4:00 – 6:00 Honey Recipe Contest entries to be picked up in JM Smucker Room (Where you dropped them off)**

\*Please read the rest of the enclosed information for more details about the workshop and pass it along to anyone you feel might be interested in attending.\*

**LODGING**

**Wooster Area Motel/Hotels**

St Paul's Hotel 203 South Market Street	330-601-1900
Rodeway Inn 2055 Lincoln Way East	330-262-5008 800-434-5800
Days Inn 789 East Milltown Road (ST RT 3)	330-345-1500 800-434-5800
Best Western 243 East Liberty Street	<b>330-264-7750 800-528-1234</b>

[bestwesternwoosterrevenue@gmail.com](mailto:bestwesternwoosterrevenue@gmail.com)

Econo Lodge 2137 Lincoln Way East	330-264-8883 800-248-8341
Hampton Inn 4253 Burbank Road (ST RT 83)	330-345-4424 800-Hampton
Hilton Garden Inn (closest) 959 Dover Road	<b>330-202-7701 877-782-9444</b>
Super 8 Motel 969 Timken Road (off US 30)	330-264-6211 800-800-8000
Comfort Suites 965 Dover Road Wooster	330-439-0190
Holiday Inn Express & Suites 128 Riffel Rd.	330-601-1221

[www.wooster.stayghi.com](http://www.wooster.stayghi.com)

**Wooster Bed & Breakfasts**

Black Squirrel Inn 636 College Ave.	330-262-3803 <a href="http://www.bbonline.com/oh/blacksquirrel">www.bbonline.com/oh/blacksquirrel</a>
Cabin at Sassafras Knoll 5932 Secrest Road	330-264-6941 <a href="http://www.bbonline/oh/sassafras">www.bbonline/oh/sassafras</a>
The Coxon House Inn 702 N Bever St.	330-465-5373
Secrest Serenity 2356 Secrest Rd.	330-465-5373

# Honey Recipe Contest at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Beekeepers Workshop

## \$800.00 in Cash Prizes will be Awarded!

If you will be attending our Spring Workshop you may want to consider submitting your favorite recipes for the Honey Recipe Contest. The contest will be held on Saturday March 7, 2026, and as long as you are a registered attendee to the workshop, that is all that is required. It is easy to do; here is how it works:

**CONTEST DATE** – Saturday, March 7, 2026

### AGENDA

<b>8:00 am – 9:30 am</b>	Drop off your entries at the JM Smucker Room in Shisler Center (brief registration)
9:30 am – 3:30 pm	Judging (closed)
4:00pm – 6:00 pm	Entries will be available for pick-up ( <b>Any entries left after 6:00 will be discarded</b> )
Closing (4:00-4:45)	Winners announced and prizes awarded.

### WHAT YOU CAN ENTER (PER REGISTERED ATTENDEE)

Select the categories you would like to enter. You may submit one entry for each category. **PLEASE DO NOT FROST, GLAZE, OR ADD OTHER TOPPINGS TO YOUR RECIPE (CAKES, BROWNIE, COOKIES ETC). ALL ENTRIES MUST BE IN/ON DISPOSABLE CONTAINER AND SECURELY WRAPPED.**

#### Categories:

- Appetizers (**FINGER FOOD**)
- Breads (Sealed in clear plastic or Ziploc bag) **INCLUDES** Sweet Breads and Muffins (Sealed in clear plastic or Ziploc bag) (6 muffins)
- Cookies and Bars (6 cookies or bars on a plate in clear plastic or Ziploc bag)
- Pies
- Desserts (other than cookies, bars and pies)
- Sauces, Jams and Jellies
- Wax 1/2 to 1 pound beeswax (1 piece or chunk, in a Ziploc bag)

**Requirements:** Honey must be used as the primary sweetener (more than 50%). Entry must be on/in a disposable container and securely wrapped.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING

- Your prepared dish (e.g., six cookies, loaf of bread, jar of jam)
- Written recipe for each entry submitted

Requirements are as follows:

Recipes must be typed or legibly written on a standard, **8 1/2 x 11" sheet of paper** and must include all four items:

1. The name of the dish
2. List of all ingredients
3. Detailed instructions
4. The source (e.g., the cookbook, magazine, grandmother) and if it was your original recipe type "Original"

**Important:** Please do not put your name on the recipe or the container you brought it in. We will label it when it is brought to the room. Be sure to pay close attention to presentation as it will be the first thing the judges will see.

### WHAT YOU COULD WIN

For each category, first, second and third place ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded

\$50.00	First place	\$20.00	Third place
\$30.00	Second place	\$100.00	Grand Prize (BEST OF SHOW)

Email questions about the baking contest to [lakehres@aol.com](mailto:lakehres@aol.com). Winner's names will be posted on our website [www.tricountybeekeepers.org](http://www.tricountybeekeepers.org). Select recipes will be published in our monthly newsletter throughout the year.

## **Directions to Fisher Auditorium OSU OARDC & ATI, Wooster Ohio**

### **Directions from points within Ohio:**

**From Cleveland/north-west:** Interstate 71 south to State Route 83/US 250 south until expressway ends. Make left hand turn onto US 250 west. OARDC will be on the right-hand side, make a right at the Main Entrance the OSU/OARDC brick sign will be there.

**From Cleveland/north-east:** Interstate 77 south to St. Rt. 21 south to St. Rt. 585 S/W to State Route 83/US 250 south until expressway ends. Make left hand turn onto US 250 west. OARDC will be on the right-hand side, make a right at the Main Entrance the OSU/OARDC brick sign will be there.

**From Lorain/Elyria/north:** State Route 83/US 250 south until expressway ends. Make left hand turn onto US 250 west. OARDC will be on the right-hand side, make a right at the Main Entrance the OSU/OARDC brick sign will be there.

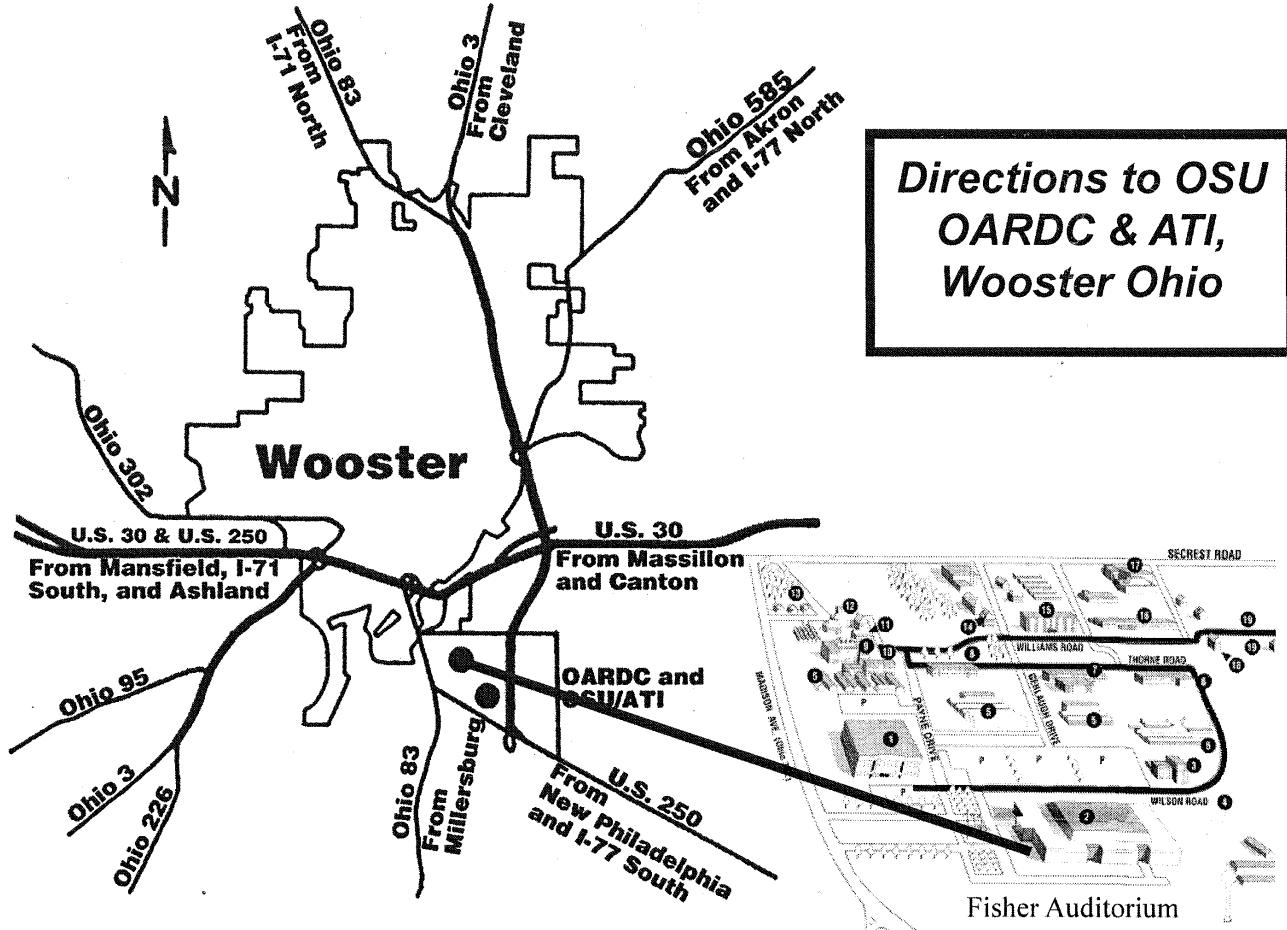
**From Columbus/Cincinnati/Dayton/south:** Interstate 71 north to U.S. 30 east to Madison Avenue exit. South on Madison Avenue.

**From Akron/Canton/east:** U.S. 30 west to Madison Avenue exit. South on Madison Avenue.

**From Mansfield/west:** U.S. 30 east to Madison Avenue exit. South on Madison Avenue.

**From Dover/New Philadelphia/southeast:** U.S. 250 northwest.

**From Toledo/northwest:** U.S. 250 southeast to U.S. 30 east to Madison Avenue exit. South on Madison Avenue.



## On-Line Registration

To begin the registration process:

1<sup>st</sup> - Visit TCBA's website at [www.TriCountyBeekeepers.org](http://www.TriCountyBeekeepers.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> - Go to the **Workshop Page\***

3<sup>rd</sup> – Pay the total fees and you are set.

\*This will take you to the website where you will find further instructions to guide you through the registration process. You will receive an email receipt immediately after registering online thru Paypal.

**Online Registration will close February 21<sup>st</sup>, registration will be capped at 1,000 attendees**

**Please Register Early.**

**THERE IS NO GUARANTEE OF ADMISSION FOR WALK-INS.**

## -- ABOUT THE (OPTIONAL) LUNCH AVAILABLE AT THE WORKSHOP --

**LUNCH will be catered by *Des Dutch Essenhaus Amish Restaurant***

Please be aware we only order enough lunches to fill the registration orders. If you want a lunch, be sure to order it with your registration.

***HOT LUNCH - \$18.00 per lunch***

***Sliced turkey\*\* or pork\*\*, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable, roll, drink, and homemade pie***

***\*\*Turkey or Pork will be served, choice\*\****

***\*\*\*There are also restaurants close by if you wish to go out\*\*\****

For more information:

Visit our website at [www.TriCountyBeekeepers.org](http://www.TriCountyBeekeepers.org)

Call us at 330-801-1309 (if no answer, please leave a message),

E-mail us at [educationcommittee@tricountybeekeepers.org](mailto:educationcommittee@tricountybeekeepers.org)

Write to Tri-County Beekeepers Association Inc. P.O. Box 1212, Wooster, Ohio 44691

**TCBA WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION FORM**  
 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Beekeeping Workshop – March 6-7, 2026  
**POSTMARK DEADLINE FOR THIS FORM IS FEBRUARY 21, 2026!!!**

**Please clearly print name, age if child and a meal selection (if desired) for each person.**

First and Last Name	Age (if child)	Hot Turkey or Pork Meal

**Contact Information for your party**

(Street Address)	(City & State)	(Zip)
(Phone#)	(Email)	

**Quantity**      **\$\_ Amount**

**TCBA Membership (optional) @ \$10.00 (one per family) .....** (\_\_\_\_) x \$10 = (\_\_\_\_)  
 (TCBA annual membership fee is due **January 1st**, so please take this opportunity to renew or become a new member. **Include Name, Address, Email and Phone for each membership**)

**Workshop Registration @ \$50.00 ea .....** (\_\_\_\_) x \$50 = (\_\_\_\_)

**Youth (17 & under) .....** (\_\_\_\_) x \$10 = (\_\_\_\_)

**Optional Lunch Selection:**

**Full Hot Turkey or Pork Lunch @ \$18.00 ea .....** (\_\_\_\_) x \$18.00 = (\_\_\_\_)

**Total Amount Enclosed..... (\_\_\_\_)**

***Please make check payable to: Tri-County Beekeepers Association Inc.***

***Mail this form and check to: TCBA, P.O. Box 1212, Wooster, OH. 44691***

**POSTMARK DEADLINE FOR THIS FORM IS FEBRUARY 21, 2026!!!**

**THERE IS NO GUARANTEE FOR WALK-INS!  
WALK-IN PRICE WILL BE \$65.00.**