

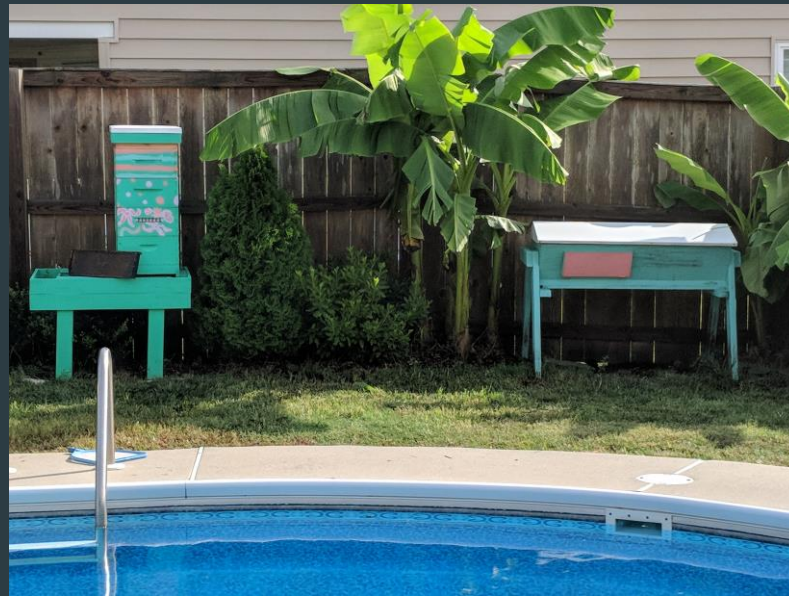
STARTING A NEW BEEHIVE

Foragers Beekeeping Club



METHOD 1 – Buy a hive

- ▶ Buy a whole hive – many frames of bees, maybe boxes too
- ▶ Whole colony
 - ▶ Established queen
 - ▶ Workers
 - ▶ Drones
 - ▶ Brood
 - ▶ Honey/pollen



METHOD 2 – Buy a nuc

- ▶ Buy a nucleus (or nuc) – Five frames with a small colony of bees
- ▶ Comes with
 - ▶ Established queen
 - ▶ Workers
 - ▶ Drones
 - ▶ Have some honey and brood



METHOD 3 Buy a Package of Bees

- ▶ Cheaper than buying whole hive or nuc
- ▶ Packages are based on weight – bees are put into a box to reach the package weight
- ▶ Queen is added to box in a queen cage so other bees can get acclimated to her
- ▶ *The other bees may not accept her*
- ▶ Get queen and bees (~4000 bees), no brood or food



METHOD 4 – Catch a Swarm

- ▶ Catch a swarm of bees, hopefully queen is in swarm
- ▶ Bait a swarm, get on list with local bee groups to get a swarm call, Nextdoor app, etc.
- ▶ No cost except for any equipment it takes to get access to swarm



METHOD 5 – Divide your colony

- ▶ One hive into two smaller hives
- ▶ Different ways to do it – even split, walk away split, fly-back split
- ▶ Queen castle

