



**The Foundation  
for the Preservation  
of Honey Bees, Inc.**



**2017 4-H Essay Contest Announcement and Rules  
Sponsored by The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.  
& Virginia 4-H**

Awards: Cash Prices to 3 Top State Winners at these levels – 1<sup>st</sup>- \$100  
2<sup>nd</sup>- \$50  
3<sup>rd</sup>- \$25

State winner will be forwarded on to National competition and could win cash prizes as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$750  
2<sup>nd</sup> - \$500  
3<sup>rd</sup> - \$250

Each state winner, including the national winners, receives an appropriate book about honey bees, beekeeping, or honey.

**2017 Essay Topic: “How can MP3 (Managed Pollinator Protection Plan) more effectively protect honey bees from pesticide exposure?”**

Beekeeping has had its five minutes of fame for the past seven years. Now more than ever, the general public along with beekeepers are asking “What will happen if the bees are gone?” With the continued threat of pesticides, this is a very real question. Your paper should research and help answer this question.

Survey your community to see what is being done. Include your state in your survey to see if there are any programs they are using for pollination or any other program that could aid the honey bee.

The scope of the research is an essential judging criterion, accounting for 40% of your score. The number of sources consulted, the authority of the sources, and the variety of the sources are all evaluated.

Personal interviews with beekeepers and others familiar with the subject are valued sources of information and should be documented. Sources, which are not cited in the endnotes, should be listed in a “Resources” or “Bibliography” list.

Note that “honey bee” is properly spelled as two words, even though many otherwise authoritative references spell it as one word.

*-Rules on reverse/next page*

## Rules:

1. Contest is open to active 4-H Club members only. 4-H'ers who have previously placed first, second or third at the national level are not eligible; other state winners are eligible to re-enter.
2. Requirements (failure to meet any one requirement disqualifies the essay) –
  - Preparation for National Judging: ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ONLY, double spaced, 12-pt. Times or similar type style, following standard manuscript format. Submit as a Microsoft Word compatible document.
  - Write on the designated subject only.
  - All factual statements must be referenced with bibliographical-style endnotes.
  - A brief biographical sketch of the essayist, including date of birth, gender, complete mailing address, and telephone number, must accompany the essay.
  - Length – the essay proper: 750-1000 words.
  - The word count does not include the endnotes, the bibliography or references, nor the essayist's biographical sketch – which should be on a separate page.
3. Essays will be judged on (a) scope of research – 40%; (b) accuracy – 30%; (c) creativity – 10%; (d) conciseness – 10%; and (e) logical development of the topic – 10%.
4. Essayists **should forward** essays to the state judging team postmarked by **February 24, 2017**. The winner of the state contest will be forwarded to the national competition before March 1.
5. The state winner will be announced on March 1, 2017 and the National Winner will be announced the week of May 3, 2017.
6. All National entries become the property of the Foundation and may be published or used as it sees fit. No essay will be returned. The National winners' essay will appear in an issue of the American Beekeeping Federation's Newsletter.
7. Email state entries by the deadline (Feb. 24, 2017) to:  
[safishe3@vt.edu](mailto:safishe3@vt.edu)  
In the subject line: VA. 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest  
All entries received will be promptly acknowledged; if you have not received an acknowledgment after 3 business days, please resubmit.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS PROGRAM**

