



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LEARN ABOUT HONEY BEES AND BEEKEEPING ON SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 2021 AT THE  
CHAPMAN DEMARY TRAIL**

**Purcellville, VA, June 11, 2021** — Join the Purcellville Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Tree and Environment Sustainability Committee to learn about honey bees and beekeeping in Northern Virginia. Bob Ragsdale, longtime beekeeper, beekeeping equipment inventor, and Beekeeping Instructor with the Loudoun Beekeepers Association, will share information about these essential pollinators on Sunday, June 27 at 1 p.m. at the Chapman DeMary Trail. [Register online to attend](#). This is part of the series of monthly nature walks held the last Sunday of each month.

Loudoun County has a large and vibrant beekeeping community and June is the peak of the beekeeping season. It is also the time when the bees are the most active gathering nectar which they will convert into honey, their long-term food stores. Join Bob for this talk where he will explore the origins of honey bees in North America, their amazing life cycle, and the plants that they rely on. The talk will also delve into the basics of beekeeping, how to get started as a beekeeper, the various types of beehives and essential equipment, commercial uses of bees, as well as honey and other products of the hive. Bob will bring examples of three different kinds of hives and some tools of the trade including the special clothing and the smoker needed to help keep bees calm during hive inspections.

The Chapman DeMary Trail is a 10-acre area considered to be the last stand of old-growth forest in the Town of Purcellville. It runs along the South Fork Catoclin Creek, part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The area is open to the public for environmental recreation, exploration, and education. The Town of Purcellville holds the conservation easement for this privately-owned property. The entrance and parking for the Chapman DeMary Trail is behind the building at 205 East Hirst Road in Purcellville.

Learn more and register online on the Monthly Nature Walks page in the Events and Activities section of the Town of Purcellville's website at [www.PurcellvilleVa.gov](http://www.PurcellvilleVa.gov).

**The Town of Purcellville, Virginia**

"Purcellville-your small Town, where history and progress intersect and people prosper," is an award-winning town of over 10,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 50 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 13<sup>th</sup> year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is ranked "Safest City" in Virginia in 2020. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, which has been converted to a multi-use trail from Alexandria, VA to Purcellville, the Town has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, equestrian activities, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at [www.purcellvilleva.gov](http://www.purcellvilleva.gov).

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