



Beekeeping Resources

There are local beekeeping associations and classes available to provide the training, mentoring and resources necessary for new beekeepers:

Beevangelists (Charbee Koenen) offers training, equipment and swarm assistance.

414.617.7773

beevangelist@gmail.com

University of WI Cooperative Extension

offers a Certified Beekeeper Course

414.256.4600

http://milwaukee.uwex.edu

Milwaukee Waukesha Beekeeping Association

www.mwbeekeepers.org Meets monthly and provides workshops, mentoring, networking, a lending library and other helpful resources.

Wasps & Hornets

Wasps, hornets and yellow jackets are normally bright yellow and black, and are normally aggressive. They are often mistaken for honeybees. They nest in the ground or above in a grey paper structure. They will sting without provocation and can sting repeatedly. Wasps and hornets can be

eliminated with common sprays. The Village does not remove these nests.



Permit and General Information:

Village of Shorewood

Planning & Development Department

3930 N. Murray Avenue

Shorewood, WI 53211

414.847.2640

www.villageofshorewood.org

Websites:

http://mwbeekeepers.org

www.honey.com

www.dadant.com

www.beeculture.com

www.beepods.com



Beekeeping in the Village of Shorewood

- Information on keeping hives
- Application process for approval
- Tips on keeping bees
- Resources for beekeeping



Helpful Tips from the Village of Shorewood Planning & Development Department



Keeping beekeeping safe in the Village of Shorewood

Importance of Honeybees

The honeybee (*apis mellifera*) is a critical pollinator for flowers, fruits and vegetables. This is of great benefit to the village where pollinating insect populations are usually significantly smaller than in rural areas.

Hives of honeybees are currently established in most major cities in the United States. Beehives are successfully kept in small back yards, on balconies and rooftops in congested urban environments with little, if any, impact to adjacent property owners.

In addition to the benefits of pollination, the honey, beeswax, pollen and other hive products are high in nutritional value and are a local, renewable and sustainable resource.

Beekeeping Ordinance & Permitting

In 2016, the Village of Shorewood Board of Trustees passed an ordinance (**Village Code Chapter 192-16**) allowing people to keep up to four colonies of honeybees on private property within the Village limits. A permit and inspection is required. Permit applications may be obtained from the Planning and Development Department.

Applications must be submitted by April 1 annually and include a scaled dimensional map showing all adjoining structures and property lines together with the proposed apiary. More information on the application may be found on the Village website.

Residents of adjoining or diagonally abutting properties as well as those across an alley must be notified by the applicant either by certified mail or signed petition. Written permission from a property owner/landlord is also required if the applicant is a tenant at the property where the bees will be kept. The beekeeper must also demonstrate that they have sufficient knowledge and supportive resources in beekeeping.

Permit Fees

\$25—Initial Permit Fee; \$10—Annual Renewal Fee

Honeybee Behavior

Honeybees are naturally gentle and non-aggressive. They may sting if they perceive a threat to their colony, but only as a last resort as the bee will die shortly after depositing its stinger. While foraging for nectar and pollen away from the colony, honeybees are completely docile and only concerned with the tasks they set out to do.

Swarms are when a queen bee leaves a colony with a large group of worker bees to form a new honey bee colony. Swarming is a natural means of reproduction of honey bee colonies and is harmless. If you observe a swarm please contact the Planning and Development Department as there are many beekeepers that would like to gather the swarms to add to their hives.

The diagram illustrates requirements per §192-16 for hive locations, hive sizes and heights. Hives can only be located in rear yards and must be a certain distance from the property boundary and neighboring homes unless consent is given by the adjoining property owners. Shorewood's code is searchable, available on the website at www.villageofshorewood.org.

