

Why keeping bees is important?

Honeybees are an asset to the community and important in the pollination of plants and production of honey and other products.

Definitions

Apiary: The assembly of one or more colonies of bees on a single lot.

Colony: An aggregate of honeybees consisting principally of workers, but having, when perfect, one queen and at time drones, brood, combs and honey.

Super: A box that holds the frames where bees will store the honey.

Is a license required?

Yes, a license is required for each apiary site. They must receive approval before you may bring any honeybees into the City.

Upon receipt of an application, the City will send a written notice to all owners of properties located within 200 feet of the property line of the apiary site identified in the application. See **Section 101.05.3 Beekeeping License Required** for the full ordinance.

How to obtain a license

To obtain a license, visit the CitizenServe Portal at <https://www.citizenserve.com/fridley>

How to obtain the Required Education Certificate

You can obtain the proof of education program/course by using one of the below links. We will accept any other program/course with proof of education.

- ⇒ Camp Beez Kneez class at Springbrook Nature center Fridley, MN
<https://www.thebeezkneezdelivery.com/cbk2020/fridley>
- ⇒ Free Online Beekeeping Course from University of California Cooperative Extension
https://ucanr.edu/sites/sandiegobees/Online_Beekeeping_Course/
- ⇒ OSU Bee Lab/pollinator workshops from The Ohio State University
<https://u.osu.edu/beelab/>
- ⇒ Beekeeping 101 from PennState Extension
<https://extension.psu.edu/beekeeping-101>

How do I submit a complaint regarding a neighbor's keeping of bees?

You can submit a complaint using the CitizenServe platform: <https://www.citizenserve.com/Fridley> or by calling Code Enforcement at 763-572-3598.

Keeping of Bees



CITY LICENSE REQUIRED



What are the required conditions?

1. No more than two (2) colonies may be kept on the property at one time.
2. Honeybee colonies shall be kept in hives with removeable frames which shall be kept in sound and usable condition.
3. Each colony on the apiary site shall be provided with a convenient source of water which must be located within ten (10) feet of each active colony.
4. Materials from a hive such as wax combs or other materials that might encourage robbing by other bees shall be promptly disposed of in a sealed container or placed within a building or other bee and vermin proof enclosure.
5. Beekeeping equipment must be maintained in good condition, including keeping the hives free of chipped and peeling paint if painted, and any unused equipment must be stored in an enclosed structure.
6. In any instance in which the colony exhibits unusual aggressive behavior, it shall be the duty of the beekeeper to promptly re-queen the colony.
7. Honey may not be sold from any residential property.

What are the rules for the apiary site(s)?

- ◇ Residents on properties zoned R-1, Single Family Residential may be permitted to keep and raise honeybees as a hobby and shall be limited to two (2) colonies per property.
- ◇ Each apiary site must apply for a license and receive approval prior to bringing any honeybees into the City.
- ◇ Hives must be located in the backyard and must be located a minimum of thirty (30) feet from all property lines.
- ◇ If any licensed beekeeper serves the community by removing a swarm or swarms of honeybees from locations where they are not desired, that person shall not be considered in violation of the colony density restrictions in this section if the following conditions are met:
 - ◇ The person temporarily houses the honeybees at an apiary site of a beekeeper licensed by the City;
 - ◇ The bees are not kept for more than thirty (30) days; and
 - ◇ The site remains in compliance with the other provisions of this section.



Is there anything else I should be aware of?

The City encourages residents to talk to their neighbors before applying to keep honeybees to ensure everyone understands the ordinance. This allows for minor issues to be resolved in a friendly manner without requiring a formal intervention by the City. This handout is not all-encompassing and residents are encouraged to also review **Section 101.05 Beekeeping** of the City Code.

Please remember that you are responsible for following all building, zoning and electrical requirements.

Some neighborhoods may have a private covenants restricting animal keeping. The City does not track or enforce private covenants.