

## Backyard Beehives

**Motion: Residents who meet specifications will be permitted to keep a beehive colony in their backyards.**

Advantages of Backyard Beehives	Disadvantages of Backyard Beehives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers use synthetic pesticides that have endangered bees.</li> <li>• Honey is a very nutritious food. It contains vitamins B1, B2, B3, B5, B6, and C. It also contains antioxidants that build healthy enzymes aiding in digestion and staving off allergies.</li> <li>• Honey is expensive. Urban beekeeping could stimulate local markets to make supply more abundant and cheaper.</li> <li>• Urban bees are stronger, healthier and more resilient because of the diversity of pollen in city gardens.</li> <li>• Bee colony interactions are interesting to watch, encouraging people to be outdoors.</li> <li>• Honey bees and bumblebees have evolved to be reluctant to sting because a bee that stings will die.</li> <li>• Beeswax can be used to make candles, lip balm, and cosmetics.</li> <li>• Feed security and biodiversity are supported when urban dwellers have a hand in food production.</li> <li>• Bees are needed for the pollination of apples, cherries, berries, peaches, cucumber, melons, sunflowers, peas, beans, squash and corn.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too many bees could lead to swarms competing for pollen and space. At risk could be butterflies and other pollinating insects.</li> <li>• Many urban dwellers might not be interested in having more bees around because they don't have flower gardens or gardens.</li> <li>• A generous and reliable water source needs to be nearby the hive or people might have bees annoying and stinging them around their pools.</li> <li>• Hives need to be located properly or neighbours might be bothered and stung.</li> <li>• The cost of supplies includes purchasing a hive (\$110); clothing, smoker, extracting equipment and other supplies (\$160); and new bees (\$100).</li> <li>• Little honey will be produced during the first year and people may abandon their bees.</li> <li>• Beehives will require at least a half hour of maintenance each week.</li> <li>• Honey can be collected twice a year, but if too much is removed, bees will swarm and migrate somewhere else. Will die over winter if too much honey has been removed.</li> <li>• A neighbor might have a serious and medically certified allergy to bee stings.</li> </ul>