

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU HAVE BEES IN AN UNWANTED AREA ON YOUR PROPERTY



First, check and make sure they are honey bees. Take a photo to share with an expert. Yellow jackets and wasps are often mistaken for honey bees (see below).

There are some beekeepers who may be able to remove the swarm/hive, typically for a fee, and relocate the bees to an apiary. Contact one of the associations listed on the previous page when you have a swarm or a hive somewhere unsafe on your property.



HONEY BEE



WASP



YELLOW JACKET



www.lickingcounty.gov

Licking County Apiarist Inspector
Contact the Commissioners' Office for more information:
740.670.5110 • www.lickingcounty.gov

REV. 10.23

LICKING COUNTY APIARIST SERVICES BEEHIVE INSPECTIONS & HEALTH



KEEPING LICKING COUNTY BEES AND APIARIES HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE!

INSPECTIONS

RESOURCES

EDUCATION

AND MORE!

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEES

Honey bees play a vital role in agriculture, providing pollination for many of the fruit and vegetable crops grown throughout the United States. In Ohio, they are pollinators for apples, melons, cucumbers, pumpkins, and more.

According to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, in 2021, Ohio produced over 1 million pounds of honey, averaging 64 pounds per colony.

BEEKEEPING IS REGULATED BY THE STATE

Since 1904, the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) has overseen inspection services for Ohio's beekeeping industry. All apiaries in the state of Ohio must be registered with ODA, and must be inspected on a regular basis to ensure the health of the bees in each colony.

To help prevent the spread of diseases and pests, ODA inspection certificates are required for any person rearing queen bees or packaged bees before they can be sold or gifted. Permits are required of anyone selling, gifting or bartering bees, honeycombs, or used equipment.

THE ROLE OF THE COUNTY APIARY INSPECTOR

Each county Apiary Inspector helps ensure that the bees required for pollination are disease- and pest-free. The duties of the inspector include:

- Inspecting for disease
- Inspecting for pests
- Help mitigating issues
- Providing resources and help for beekeepers
- Providing references for further testing or services



More information? To contact the Licking County Apiarist, call the Commissioners' Office at 740.670.5110

THE VALUE OF BEES IN OUR FOOD SUPPLY

Bees are responsible for pollinating about one-third of the world's food supply. In the United States, honey bees alone provide pollination services valued at \$15 to \$20 billion annually.

More than 80% of the world's flowering plants need a pollinator to reproduce. Foods like fruits, vegetables, chocolate, coffee, nuts and spices are created with the help of pollinators like bees. They spread the pollen from plant to plant, creating more seeds and plants for future food products.

BEE FACTS

One bee will make 1/2 teaspoon of honey in its entire life.

It takes 1,000 bees visiting 4 million flowers to make 1 kg (2.2 lbs) of honey.

Bees are the only insect in the world that make food for people!

WANT TO LEARN BEEKEEPING?

There are many organizations available to help you learn about beekeeping and setting up your own apiary. For more information, contact:

East Central Ohio Beekeepers Association
www.e-coba.org 614.881.0445 (call or text)

Ohio State Beekeepers Association
ohiostatebeekeepers.org

Ohio Department of Agriculture
agri.ohio.gov/divisions/plant-health/apiary-program

SELLING HONEY

While beekeeping and the sale of bees, queens, and apiary equipment is regulated by Ohio's Agriculture Department, the packaging and sale of honey and honey-related products is overseen by the Ohio Division of Food Safety.

