



Your guide to keeping urban bees in the Town of High River



High River Council has approved Urban Bee Bylaw 4471/2016 to regulate and provide guidelines for residents to keep bees within the corporate boundaries of the Town of High River.

This Bylaw requires residents to apply for and maintain an Urban Bee License on an annual basis.

Urban Bees kept within the Town of High River are for personal use only and any person wanting to keep Urban Bees must annually register with Alberta Agriculture. Unregistered owners are subject to fines or imprisonment under the Bee Act.

A Premises Identification (PID) must be obtained under the Premises Identification Regulation (200/2008) in the Alberta Animal Health Act. Liability insurance must also be obtained by the applicant.

HIVE RESTRICTIONS

- Only *Apis mellifera* L, also known as honeybees, are allowed to be kept;
- There can be no more than two (2) hives per property;
- Hives are restricted to rear yards with reasonable protection from access by animals and children;
- Hives are to be located a minimum of 2.4 metres above ground or within yards enclosed by a 1.8 metre high hedge or solid fence;
- Hive entrances are to be directed away from neighbouring properties;
- All immediately adjacent neighbours must be notified by the applicant that bee hive(s) will be present.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BEEKEEPER

- Beekeepers must comply with *the Bee Act* and other applicable standards adopted by the Province of Alberta.
- Beekeepers or persons on whose property bees are kept have the duty to take reasonable measures to ensure that:
 - a. The bees do not pose a safety risk to persons on adjacent public or private property.
 - b. The potential for damage to buildings and/or property located on adjacent public or private property as a result of the apicultural operation is minimized.
 - c. Any person who keeps bees has the duty ensure the maintenance of the bees in such a condition as will reasonably prevent aggressive behaviour or swarming by the bees.

ENFORCEMENT

- This Bylaw shall be enforced by any Bylaw Enforcement Officer;
- Approved beekeepers shall make themselves and their hives available for inspection on reasonable request by the Bylaw Enforcement Officer.

HOW TO APPLY

Online

Visit www.highriver.ca and select 'Bylaw & Protective Services' from the Residents menu to download an application or for more information about the Urban Bee Bylaw.

In person

Visit 309B Macleod Trail SW and pick up an application from the main reception desk.

Return all forms to:
309B Macleod Trail S.W
High River, AB T1V 1Z5

