

People need bees.



Bees pollinate as much as a third of the agricultural crops that we produce. In return, bees need a safe environment in which to do their job.

Beekeepers should take an active role in protecting pollinators by making informed decisions about pesticide applications and other activities that may adversely affect their bees and other native habitats. It starts with opening lines of communication with your local landscaper.

Working together, we can create a healthier environment for all pollinators.

This publication is generated
on behalf of:



NC STATE UNIVERSITY

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Know

Your Landscaper

Communication Is Key



FOR BEEKEEPERS



Information For Beekeepers

Placement

Before placing hives in or near urban areas, get to know the public and private landowners adjacent to the sites you are considering as well as the landscapers and pest management professionals that service those spaces. Discuss proper hive placement to help ensure the safest and most convenient location for the hives and others near the space. Consider these factors when deciding on a location for your hives:

- Equipment hazards
- People and pets in proximity to hives
- Natural barriers to mitigate exposure to pesticides and weather
- Alignment of hive openings away from neighbors and homes
- Proximity to pesticide application and mixing/loading sites

Do not place hives or apiaries near ornamentals and turf sites that may rely on frequent use of insecticides such as golf courses.

Hive Identification

Place weather-proof placards on a prominent hive within the apiary that clearly shows the owner's name and emergency contact information. The placard should be visible from a distance.

Bee Awareness Zones — Flags & GPS

North Carolina is currently considering the use of flags and/or global positioning coordinates (GPS) to identify "Bee Awareness Zones" or areas where bee apiaries are located.

Flagging

This flag, or one similar to it, may be beneficial for marking the location of apiaries near public or private properties that are serviced by landscapers or pest management professionals. Place flags in a location that is easily visible to landscapers operating ground equipment. The flag will serve as a constant reminder that bees are in the vicinity and that care and/or notification should be taken with insecticide applications. Beekeepers are also encouraged to provide GPS locations of their apiaries to any pesticide applicators who may be applying insecticides in the area to show the exact location. In the future, there may be a secured website accessible only by pesticide applicators in the area.



Registered Apiaries

If pesticides are applied by aircraft in your area, register your hives with the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Plant Industry Division using the registration form found at <http://www.ncagr.gov/plantindustry/Plant/apiary/documents/2015ApiaryRegistrationForm.pdf>.

Discuss Pest Management Plans

Ask landscapers and pest management professionals in your area about their ornamental, turf protection and structural pest control plans. Develop a plan to protect bees from pesticides during critical pesticide application windows, when application of products that may be harmful to bees may be necessary.

Protect Hives

Take steps to protect hives and supplemental food and water sources from pesticide drift. When pesticides known to be toxic to bees are being applied near your hives, move, cover or otherwise protect hives during treatment.

Report Incidents

If you suspect your bees have been exposed to pesticides immediately call the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division, Pesticide Section at 919-733-3556 or N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Plant Industry Division, Plant Protection Section, Apiary Inspection Services at (919)707-3753.

Make Connections To Protect Pollinators

The best way to ensure protection of honey bees in regions where pesticides are used is to ensure effective communication between beekeepers and landscapers.



Beekeepers and landscapers with operations in close proximity are encouraged to have an open dialogue and to update contact information each year.

Fostering strong communication is the basis of a successful relationship. Beekeepers and farmers with operations in close proximity should know one another's name and pertinent contact information.