



Beekeeping Permit Application

This permit allows you to keep honeybees in compliance with the City of Two Rivers Municipal Code (Ordinance 6-5-23). Please complete this application in its entirety and submit it, along with the proper documents and permit fee to:

Zoning Administrator
City of Two Rivers
1717 E Park St
PO Box 87
Two Rivers, WI 54241-0087
Email: vberg@two-rivers.org Fax: 920-793-5512

Name of Bee Owner _____

Address of Bee Owner _____

Telephone of Bee Owner _____ Email of Bee Owner _____

Name of Property Owner _____

Address of Property Owner _____

Phone Number of Owner _____ Email of Property Owner _____

Please submit the application and permit fee and the following:

- Detailed lot diagram, drawn to scale, of the beekeeping equipment location, including the distances to property lines, from other structures on the premises and from nearby structures on neighboring properties.
- Documentation which identifies the species of honeybees to be purchased or have been purchased.

Renewal Applications: Please submit the information listed above and written documentation of the successful completion of an annual inspection by a State Apiary Inspector or a member of a local bee keeping organization approved by the City at the time of each renewal.

The permit fee is \$30. Permit commences on January 1 and ends on December 31. (Late fee \$5.00)
Permit is not transferable or refundable. Only the owner or occupant, with the owner's permission, is eligible to obtain a permit. Limit of one permit per premises.

The undersigned has received, understands and agrees to comply with the ordinances applicable to the keeping of honeybees in the City.

Applicant Signature

Date

Owner Signature (if different than Applicant)

Date

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Application Date _____

Approval Date _____

Permit Fee _____

Zoning Admin _____

KEEPING OF HONEYBEES
ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS
(Ordinance 6-5-23)

Honeybees may be kept in accord with the following requirements and standards:

- A permit shall be obtained from the Zoning Administrator for the keeping of honeybees.
- A fee shall be paid with submittal of the application in accord with the City's fee schedule.
- All applications shall require approval of the City's Plan Commission.
- Provide documentation which identifies the species of honeybees which is defined as all stages of the common domestic honeybee, *Apis mellifera* species of European origin, limited to the Italian, Carnolian and Buckfast species.
- The keeping of bees shall not be permitted on lots containing three or more dwelling units (multi-family dwellings).
- Beekeeping equipment shall be restricted to rear and interior side yards.
- Beekeeping equipment shall not be located closer than 10 feet from any property line; 25 feet from a street, alley or public sidewalk; and 25 feet from a dwelling unit, gazebo, deck, porch, swimming pool, permanently affixed play equipment and any other habitable area on an abutting lot.
- No more than two hives are allowed per lot.
- No hive shall exceed 20 cubic feet in volume.
- Bee colonies shall be kept in hives with removable frames, which shall be kept in sound and usable condition.
- Hives must have a constant, adequate and convenient source of fresh water available to the colony.
- Hives must have a flyaway barrier comprised of a wall, fence, dense vegetation or combination thereof, at least six feet tall which shields any part of a property line that is within 25 feet of a hive. A flyaway barrier is not required if all property adjoining the apiary lot line is undeveloped, is zoned nonresidential, bicycle or foot trails are located within 25 feet of the apiary lot line.
- The beekeeper shall conspicuously post a sign including the words "HONEY BEE HIVE" and the beekeeper's name and telephone number clearly readable at 25 feet. Said sign shall be placed in the front yard of the premises and shall not exceed two square feet in area. A copy of the permit shall be placed in a conspicuous place on the hive.
- The beekeeper shall ensure that no wax comb or other materials that may encourage robbing by other bees are left upon the grounds or the apiary lot. Such materials, once removed from the site, shall be handled and stored in sealed containers or placed within a building or other insect-proof container.
- Beekeeping equipment shall be maintained in good condition, including keeping the hives painted, securing unused equipment from the weather, potential theft of vandalism and occupancy by swarms. It shall be a violation for any beekeeper's unused equipment to attract a swarm, even if the beekeeper is not intentionally keeping honeybees.
- Hives shall be actively maintained. Hives not under active human management and maintenance shall be deemed abandoned and dismantled or removed from the property by the property owner.
- In any instance in which a hive exhibits unusually aggressive characteristics, it shall be the duty of the beekeeper to destroy or re-queen the hive. Queens shall be selected from stock bred for gentleness and non-swarmling characteristics.
- No beekeeper shall keep a hive or hives that cause any unhealthy conditions or interfere with the normal use and enjoyment of human or animal life of others, any public property or property of others.

Inspection - City staff shall have the right to enter upon any property required to hold a permit at all reasonable times to inspect the premises, obtain photographs or take any other action deemed necessary to properly enforce the ordinance. Where practicable, prior notice shall be given to the beekeeper.

Enforcement - The City may suspend or revoke any permit issued pursuant to the ordinance for violations of ordinances, laws or other good cause. Violations may constitute a public nuisance and may be abated in accord with local ordinances, state or federal laws.

Penalty - Violations of this permit or local ordinances shall be subject to the general penalty provisions of the Municipal Code.