



ZONING PERMIT AFFIDAVIT
KEEPING OF HONEY BEES

KEEPING OF HONEY BEES – BEST PRACTICES (*City Code §110-3.5.5.D.13*)

Keeping of up to four beehives on an occupied residential lot shall be allowed provided:

- (1) Beehives will not be located any closer than 10 feet from any side or rear lot line.
- (2) All honey bee colonies shall be kept within types of hives with removable combs to facilitate inspection, and maintained in sound and usable condition.
- (3) A constant supply of fresh water shall be provided on the lot within 20 feet of all hives. The water source shall be maintained so as not to become stagnant.
- (4) A flyway barrier at least six feet in height but no greater than seven feet in height shall be erected parallel to the property line between the hive opening and any property line located 10 feet or less therefrom. The flyway barrier shall consist of a wall, solid fence, dense vegetation, or a combination thereof extending five feet beyond the hive in each direction. A flyway barrier of dense vegetation shall not be limited to seven feet in height provided that the initial planting is four feet in height and the vegetation normally reaches six feet in height or higher. Barriers shall be maintained in good condition so that all bees are forced to fly at an elevation of at least six feet above ground level.
- (5) Where a colony exhibits aggressive or swarming behavior, the beekeeper shall ensure that the colony is re-queened or removed. Aggressive behavior is any instance in which unusual aggressive characteristics such as stinging or attacking without provocation occurs.

PROPERTY OWNER AFFIDAVIT

I hereby certify as the property owner that the bee keeping applicant has the authority vested by me to maintain honey bee hives at the listed address. The information provided on this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the hive locations and maintenance must comply with all conditions of *City Code Section §110-3.5.5.D.13* Keeping of Honey Bees as well as all other zoning requirements.

Property Owner/Agent Signature (REQUIRED) _____ Date _____

APPLICANT AFFIDAVIT

I have read, understand and agree:

- a) To comply with *City Code Section §110-3.5.5.D.13* and best practices applicable to domestic beekeeping.
- b) The city manager's designee may revoke the permit and remove the hive(s) if the applicant fails to comply with the best practices as stipulated herein, this or any ordinance of the City Code, or any other applicable Virginia or local law or regulation pertaining to the keeping of bees.
- c) The city's designated inspector shall have the right to inspect the hives between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Where practicable, prior notice shall be given to the licensed beekeeper.

Applicant Signature (REQUIRED) _____ Date _____