

## Bees Guidelines

Environmental Health approval is required to keep bees in the Shire of Murray. Approval will generally be granted if the proposal complies with the Shire of Murray Health Local Law 2018.

### • Legislation

These Guidelines are in line with the Shire of Murray Health Local Law 2018

### Application Process

To apply for approval to keep bees:

- Complete the Application to Keep Bees form (available from the Shire office or website).
- Submit the completed form to the Shire.
- Note: There is currently no fee for this application.

### Health Local Law Requirements

#### *Division 7—Bee Keeping*

#### **6.19 Interpretation**

**Bee:** Any insect belonging to the super family Apoidea, commonly known as a bee.

**Hive:** A moveable or fixed structure, container, or object in which a colony of bees is kept

#### **6.20 Limitation on numbers of hives**

- (1) A person shall not keep or permit the keeping of bees anywhere within the district unless approval to do so has been given by an Authorised Officer.
- (2) Subject to subclauses (3) and (4), a person shall not keep or permit the keeping of bees in more than 2 hives on a lot.
- (3) An Authorised Officer may, upon written application, consent, with or without conditions, to a person keeping bees in more than 2 hives on a lot.
- (4) A person shall comply with any conditions imposed by an Authorised Officer under subclause (3).

#### **6.21 Restrictions on keeping of bees in hives**

A person shall not keep or permit the keeping of bees in a hive on a lot unless, at all times—

- (a) an adequate and permanent supply of water is provided on the lot which is readily accessible to bees;
- (b) no more than 2 hives are kept on land of less than 2,000 square metres in area unless otherwise approved;
- (c) the hive is kept—
  - (i) outside, and at least 10 metres from, any building other than a fence;
  - (ii) at least 10 metres from any footpath, street, private street or public place; and
  - (iii) at least 5 metres from the boundary of the lot;
- (d) the hive is enclosed on all sides by a fence, wall or other enclosure to encourage bees to fly at a height over the property boundary; and
- (e) the person is registered as a beekeeper if required by the *Agriculture Management (Identification and Movement of Stock and Apiaries) Regulations 2013*.

#### **6.22 Bees which cause a nuisance not to be kept**

- (1) A person shall not keep, or permit the keeping of, bees which cause a nuisance.
- (2) An Authorised Officer may direct any person to remove any bees or beehives which in the opinion of the Authorised Officer are causing a nuisance.

### Compliance

Once approval is granted, the Shire of Murray expects:

1. Compliance with permit conditions.
2. Prevention of nuisance to neighbours and community

## Application for Keeping Bees

This application is for a request to keep bees in the Shire of Murray.

### Applicant Details

Name: .....

Property Address: .....

Postal Address: .....

Telephone: ..... Mobile: .....

Email: .....

### Beekeeping Details

1. Property Address (if different from applicant's address):

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2. Number of hives: ..... Area of land available (m2) .....

3. If more than 2 hives are proposed, please attach a statement providing justification

4. Owner of property has granted permission to property occupiers to keep bees

5. Hives will be within setbacks of the Shire of Murray Local Law (see guidelines)

6. A screen / barrier will prevent bees from flying low over thoroughfare, public place or adjoining land

7. Beekeeper approval obtained from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

8. Adjoining property owners do not object to your proposal

9. If you intend to sell honey or bee products, you are aware that you require a registration of food business to comply with the Food Act 2008

10. Attach a site plan showing where the hive(s) will be located

Applicant Name: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....