

## URBAN BEEKEEPING LICENCE APPLICATION

An Urban Beekeeping Licence is required for honey beekeeping in the City of St. Albert. Please complete the following form and submit the application, with supporting documents to the City of St. Albert, Planning and Development Department. The Urban Beekeeping Licence is valid for one (1) year following the date of issuance.

### 1. APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION

**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**As the applicant, I affirm (check all that apply):**

- I am the registered property owner.
- I have permission from the registered owner to apply to keep bees on the property (attach completed authorization from registered owner form).
- I have permission from the leaseholder/licence holder to apply to keep bees on the property (attach completed authorization from leaseholder form).

### 2. SITE INFORMATION

**Location/Address of Hive(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Hive(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

- Please provide a drawing that shows the hive(s) location on the property, and associated setbacks if there is no solid fence and/or the property is adjacent to a Pedestrian Walkway. Some ways to provide a drawing is by using an existing real property report, an aerial photo from Google Earth, or a scaled drawing.

a. Do you have a solid fence surrounding the rear property? Yes  No

b. If 'No' to 2a, are the hive(s) located 3 metres (10 feet) away from all property lines? Yes  No

*If answered 'No' to 2a and 2b, the application will be refused.*

c. Is your property located adjacent to a Pedestrian Walkway? Yes  No

d. If answered 'Yes' to 2c, are your hive(s) located 3 metres from the property line and the rear yard enclosed by a solid fence? Yes  No

*If answered 'No' to 2d, the application will be refused.*

- The hive(s) is located on a non-residential site, and I understand that I am required to obtain a Business Licence. Please contact Business Licensing at [licensing@stalbert.ca](mailto:licensing@stalbert.ca) or 780-459-1733 regarding applications. A Business Licence can be issued concurrently with the Urban Beekeeping Licence.

### 3. PREMISES IDENTIFICATION

Premises Identification (PID) Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. LICENCE FEE

The Urban Beekeeping Licence fee is \$40.00, as per Schedule A of Bylaw 34/2017. Fee is required to be paid at the time of application.

## 5. TRAINING REQUIREMENT (See Qualifying Urban Beekeeping Courses)

If the beekeeper is not the registered owner of the property, it is required that both the beekeeper and the registered property owner successfully complete urban beekeeping training. If the City of St. Albert is the registered property owner or the leaseholder, the City does not need proof of urban beekeeping training.

I, the registered property owner, have successfully completed urban beekeeping training (attach a copy of the course certificate). Please also provide the following course information:

**Session Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Session Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Session Instructor:** \_\_\_\_\_

I, the beekeeper, have successfully completed urban beekeeping training (attach a copy of the course certificate). Please also provide the following course information:

**Session Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Session Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Session Instructor:** \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. MENTOR REQUIREMENT

Please provide information on your mentor or that you have contacted a local beekeeping association for mentorship.

**Name of Mentor or Beekeeping Association:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Experience (How long have they been beekeeping? When did they keep bees?)** \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- I have read and agree to follow the City of St. Albert Bylaw 34/2017, Urban Beekeeping Bylaw.
- I have written permission from all Adjoining Neighbours to install hive(s) in my rear yard (attach a copy of each neighbour's written permission). If the neighbouring lands are owned by the City of St. Albert, such as parks, written permission is not required.
- I am aware that any swarming and disease issues need to be brought to Public Works' attention immediately by calling 780-459-1557.
- I have attached a swarm and disease control plan.
- Pursuant to the Alberta *Bee Act*, I have registered with the Provincial Apiculturist for this site (attach a copy of your Certificate of Registration).
- I understand that failure to abide by all requirements of Bylaw 34/2017, after I have received my Licence, may result in the Urban Beekeeping Licence being revoked.
- I am 18 years old or older.

**Applicant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Disclaimer: Personal information on this form is collected under the authority of Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act for the purpose of issuing an Urban Beekeeping Licence. If you have any questions about the collection, use, and protection of this information, please contact Planning and Development Department at 780-459-1642.*

# URBAN BEEKEEPING REGULATIONS



Urban Beekeeping in St. Albert is enforced under the Urban Beekeeping Bylaw 34/2017. The regulations are based on best practices with the intent to minimize potential incidents between surrounding neighbours, bees, and beekeepers.

## 1. General Regulations

- Urban beekeeping regulations is for the keeping of honey bees and hives.
- Beekeeping in public parks operated by the City is not permitted under Bylaw 34/2017.
- Residential beekeeping for the purposes of Bylaw 34/2017 is for personal use only.
- A Beekeeping Business Licence is required for the commercial sale of bee products (all hives on non-residential sites).

## 2. Hive and Site Requirements

- A hive must include a bottom board, a hive cover, and a maximum of four (4) supers.
- The hive must not measure more than 127 cm (50 in.) x 51 cm (20 in.) x 51 cm (20 in.).
- Hives are restricted to the rear yard of a property.
- Hive entrances are to be directed away from adjoining properties.
- Hives are to be located a minimum of three metres from all property lines OR within a rear yard enclosed by a solid fence or hedge a minimum of 1.8 metres in height.
- Properties located adjacent to pedestrian walkways must ensure that the hives are a minimum of three metres from the property line adjacent to the pedestrian walkway AND within a rear yard enclosed by a solid fence or hedge 1.8 metres in height.

### *Residential Properties:*

- A maximum of two (2) hives on one parcel of land.

### *Non-Residential Properties:*

- A maximum of two (2) hives on one parcel of land with an area less than 929 m<sup>2</sup> (10,000 ft<sup>2</sup>).
- A maximum of four (4) hives on one parcel of land with an area equal to or greater than 929 m<sup>2</sup>.
- Hives located within open spaces, without defined rear yards, must be located a minimum of three metres (10 feet) from all property lines and are located within a secure enclosure a minimum of 1.8 metres (6 feet) in height.

## 3. Neighbourhood Notification

- Applicant must submit written permission from all Adjoining Neighbours to install Hives on the property.

## 4. Registration and Premises Identification

- A property owners must register annually with the provincial apiculturist as per the Alberta *Bee Act*.
- A Premises Identification (PID) number must be obtained under the Alberta *Animal Health Act*.

## 5. Training

- Proof of success in an urban beekeeping course from an accepted organization or association is required. See the list of acceptable Urban Beekeeping Courses.

## 6. Liability Insurance

- Property owners may consider obtaining liability insurance. Liability insurance protects the property owner if someone gets stung or if someone eats their honey and blames them for getting sick.

## 7. Responsibilities of the Urban Beekeeper

- Ensure good husbandry practices and maintenance to prevent swarming, aggressive behaviour, and disease.
- Adequate water must be provided to deter the bees from seeking water from alternate sources.

## 8. Inspections

- Property owners shall make themselves and the hive(s) available for inspection on reasonable request of a Licensing Authority or a Peace Officer.

## 9. Revocable Permissions

- Should a Licensing Authority or Peace Officer find a beekeeping site, hive, or beekeeper to be non-conforming to Bylaw 34/2017, the beekeeping licence may be revoked. Relocation of hives and bees; plus, the associated costs are the responsibility of the property owner.

## 10. Licence Application Requirements and Process

- Written permission from all Adjoining Neighbours
- Complete the application form and pay the required Licence Fee
- A drawing of hive location and the appropriate setbacks
- Beekeeping course certification from accepted organization/association
- Proof of support and assistance of an accepted mentor for the first year
- Swarm and disease control plan
- Premises Identification (PID) number
- Certificate of registration with the provincial apiculturist
- Must be age 18 years or older
- A Business Licence for hive(s) located on a non-residential property

Visit the City of St. Albert webpage for information and forms:

<https://stalbert.ca/city/approvals/>

If you have questions about beekeeping in St. Albert email [bees@stalbert.ca](mailto:bees@stalbert.ca) or call 780-459-1642.

P&D Form 039 Updated October 2017



## URBAN BEEKEEPING

### AUTHORIZATION FROM REGISTERED OWNER

Please note that the submission of this form does not constitute permission to keep honey bees. An Applicant will be issued an Urban Beekeeping Licence by the City of St. Albert if the application package is complete and follows the regulations for urban beekeeping as detailed in the Urban Beekeeping Bylaw 34/2017.

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
Name of Registered Owner

being the registered owner of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

hereby allow \_\_\_\_\_,  
Name of Applicant

to make an application to keep urban honey bees.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## URBAN BEEKEEPING

### AUTHORIZATION FROM LEASEHOLDER

Please note that the submission of this form does not constitute permission to keep honey bees. An applicant will be issued an Urban Beekeeping Licence by the City of St. Albert if the application package is complete, and follows the regulations for urban beekeeping, as outlined in the Urban Beekeeping Bylaw 34/2017.

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
Name of Leaseholder

being the leaseholder of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

hereby allow \_\_\_\_\_,  
Name of Applicant

to make an application to keep urban honey bees.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**URBAN BEEKEEPING LICENCE**  
**NEIGHBOUR CONSENT**

Please fill out this form and return it to the applicant by \_\_\_\_\_

Date

I, \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant

of \_\_\_\_\_

Address

will be applying to the City of St. Albert to keep bee hives in my rear yard. As part of the application process, I must have written permission from all Adjoining Neighbours to install hive(s) on my property. The number of hives I am permitted is \_\_\_\_\_ hives. Bylaw 34/2017 regulates the keeping of bees in urban areas. To review the Bylaw please visit the City Webpage: <https://stalbert.ca/cosa/bylaws/>.

**NEIGHBOUR TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTION**

**Neighbour's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you the Registered Owner?**  Yes  No

I understand my neighbour is applying to have bee hives in their rear yard.

I do not give permission to keep bee hives.

I give permission to keep bee hives.

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# URBAN BEEKEEPING RESOURCES

<b>City of St. Albert</b>	Webpage for Urban Beekeeping	<a href="https://stalbert.ca/city/approvals/">https://stalbert.ca/city/approvals/</a>
<b>Province of Alberta Legislation</b>	Bee Act	<a href="http://www.gp.alberta.ca/documents/Acts/B02.pdf">http://www.gp.alberta.ca/documents/Acts/B02.pdf</a>
	Bee Act, Bee Regulations	<a href="http://www.gp.alberta.ca/documents/regs/2003_194.pdf">http://www.gp.alberta.ca/documents/regs/2003_194.pdf</a>
	Premises Identification (PID) Program	<a href="http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/trace12354">http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/trace12354</a>
	Alberta Apiculture	<a href="http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$Department/deptdocs.nsf/all/prm13239">http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$Department/deptdocs.nsf/all/prm13239</a>
	Alberta Beekeeper Registration Form	<a href="http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$Department/deptdocs.nsf/all/prm13239/\$FILE/beekeeper-registration-form.pdf">http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$Department/deptdocs.nsf/all/prm13239/\$FILE/beekeeper-registration-form.pdf</a>
<b>Organizations</b>	Edmonton District Beekeepers Association (EDBA)	<a href="https://edmontonbeekeepers.ca/">https://edmontonbeekeepers.ca/</a>
	Alberta Beekeepers Commission	<a href="https://www.albertabeekeepers.org/">https://www.albertabeekeepers.org/</a>
	YEG Bees Honey Co-op	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/yegbees/">https://www.facebook.com/yegbees/</a>
<b>Beekeeping Courses</b>	Apiaries & Bees for Communities (ABC Bees)	<a href="http://www.abcbees.ca/">http://www.abcbees.ca/</a>
	Bee Culture Solution	<a href="https://beeculturesolutions.com">https://beeculturesolutions.com</a>
	John Janzen Nature Centre	
<b>Liability Insurance</b>	EDBA / The Co-operators	<a href="https://edmontonbeekeepers.ca/insurance/">https://edmontonbeekeepers.ca/insurance/</a>
	Drayden Insurance Ltd.	<a href="http://drayden.com/farm-insurance/alberta-beekeepers-association/">http://drayden.com/farm-insurance/alberta-beekeepers-association/</a>
<b>Hives, Bee Packages, and Beekeeping Supplies</b>	BeeMaid	<a href="http://www.beemaidbeestore.com/">http://www.beemaidbeestore.com/</a>
	Peavey Mart	<a href="https://www.peaveymart.com/">https://www.peaveymart.com/</a>

**Disclaimer:** The above links are provided only as a resource for your personal interest, and are not being advocated by the City of St. Albert.



# SWARM INFORMATION



City of St. Albert

**Swarm Response Line: 780-459-1557**

Provide the public of the City of St. Albert a contact to call when a honey bee swarm is found within city limits on public or private property. When you call please provide information on the location of the swarm so that a swarm catcher can go to the site.

A honey bee swarm is noticeable when there is a dense group of bees, typically moving together in one direction. Once the swarm lands or clusters, it is a dense mass of bees in a tree, on a fence post, the side of a building, or other exposed similar spots. Before bees swarm, they fill-up on honey making it difficult to bend and sting. They need the honey as a food source, because they do not know how long it will be before they have a new home. There will be some bees scouting out a new home. When a new home is found, the swarm of bees will move again to take up permanent residence in a sheltered spot where they build their wax comb.

A honey bee is relatively large, slim insect (about 12 mm or ½ inch long), with 3 distinct body parts and 4 wings. They are covered with short hair and range in colour from a dusty yellow to almost black. They usually have a few bands of contrasting colour across their abdomen.

For more information about beekeeping, please visit the City of St. Albert webpage:

<https://stalbert.ca/city/approvals/>

If you have questions about beekeeping in the St. Albert please email [bees@stalbert.ca](mailto:bees@stalbert.ca) or call 780-459-1642.

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