

APIARY PERMIT APPLICATION
TOWN OF EMMITSBURG
300A South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727
www.emmitsburgmd.gov · (301) 600-6300



Permit Instructions:

- All applications must be completed in full along with the owner's signature. Incomplete applications will result in denial or delayed processing. The current permit fee is \$50.00. Payment may be made by cash, check, or credit card. Add \$5.00 fee for credit card processing.
- All applications must include a schematic drawing (site plan) of the premises showing: 1) the size of the lot; 2) the location & number of hives; 3) the location of the water source; 4) the distance of the hives from any property lines; and if required 5) the location of any flyway barriers.
- All applications must be accompanied by written evidence that the applicant has completed a beekeeping educational course/program with a minimum of 8 hours of instructions or a letter of validation from an officer of the Maryland State Beekeeper's Association, an officer of the Frederick County Beekeeping Association, or a certified master beekeeper.
- After Town approval, the property owner must register the apiary with the Maryland Department of Agriculture. A copy of the registration certificate must be supplied to the Town once approved by the state.

The following requirements shall apply to the keeping of apiaries as defined in Town Code Chapter 6.20:

- A beekeeper owning or maintaining an apiary in the Town shall promptly notify the Code Enforcement Officer without unnecessary delay, and in no event longer than 72 hours, if the State revokes their apiary registration or if the registration has lapsed. Hives shall not be located within 10' of any side or rear property lines unless a flyway barrier is in place or the hive(s) are located at least 10' above grade. Hives shall not be located within a front yard. Hives shall not be located within 50' of a pre-existing swimming pool or a pre-existing kenneled animal. Apiaries are not permitted within 20' of any buildings located on adjacent properties. For a property with a minimum of 2,000 square feet of lot area, a beekeeper is permitted to keep 2 hives. For each additional 4,000 square feet of lot area, the beekeeper is permitted 2 additional hives. A beekeeper may exceed these regulations under the following conditions: 1) as part of normal honey bee colony management, a beekeeper may also keep, in addition to allowable standard hives, between April 15 and August 15, two nucleus colonies per standard hive, provided that they are used for managing colony strength, to minimize reproductive swarming, queen rearing, or swarm capture and 2) for each allowed standard hive, a single nucleus hive may be kept from August 16 to April 14 to allow a beekeeper to mitigate winter colony loses. A supply of fresh water shall be maintained in a location readily accessible to all bee colonies on the site throughout the day to prevent bees from congregating at neighboring swimming pools or other sources of water on nearby properties between April 1 – November 1.

Please Note:

- A permit issued by the Town is valid until revoked or until the permit holder requests, in writing, that the permit be terminated. Permits are not transferrable to a new apiary owner or to a new property address.
- This permit does not exclude the applicant / owner from acquiring other necessary local, state, or federal permits prior to obtaining the permit.
- The property owner and authorized agent (applicant) hereby agrees to comply with all applicable Town codes, laws, ordinances, and regulations, and in accordance with all State and Federal regulations. The property owner alone bears the responsibility of ensuring their lot, structures, and uses thereon do not violate other laws, regulations, or the rights of neighbors and other parts. I hereby certify the information with this application to be true and correct, and I further agree to pay all costs as stated in the Town's fee schedule.
- The property owner has given permission to the applicant to own or maintain an apiary on the subject property.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Owner: _____ Date: _____

Property Address: _____

Applicant: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Owner is the same as the Applicant

Owner: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I have attached a schematic drawing of the premises as described on the first page of this application.

Yes.

No. **The application cannot be approved.**

I have attached written evidence that the applicant has completed a beekeeping educational course/program with a minimum of 8 hours of instructions or a letter of validation from an officer of the Maryland State Beekeeper's Association, an officer of the Frederick County Beekeeping Association, or a certified master beekeeper.

Yes.

No. **The application cannot be approved.**

Zoning of Property:

Conservation / Recreation (C/R), Residential Suburban (R-S), Low-Density Residential (R-1), Medium Density Residential (R-2), High Density Residential (R-3), or Village Zone (VZ).

Neighborhood Commercial (B-1), General Commercial (B-2), Industrial Park (IP), Office, Research, Industrial (ORI), or Institutional (INST). **The application cannot be approved.**

Size of lot: _____ square feet. **The lot must be at least 2,000 square feet.**

Proposed number of hives: _____. **Permitted 2 hives for the first 2,000 square feet. For each additional 4,000 square feet of lot area, two additional hives are permitted.**

Town Use Only

Date: _____

Conditions of approval: _____

Approved

Denied _____

Fee: \$50.00

Cash Check # _____ Credit Card
