

Bee Keeping

If you want to keep bees there are a few things that need to be considered.

- You can only keep bees if they are kept in full compliance with the Bee Keeping requirements of The City of Belmont Health Local Laws 2002.
- Always have an adequate and permanent water supply located within 10m of your hives.
- It is recommended that all used hive components not currently in use for housing bees should be stored in a way that bees cannot gain entry to them.
- Ensure bee flight paths do not interfere with neighbouring land, roadways and walking tracks or paths.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development website provides details of their beekeeping requirements as well as providing useful information on bee keeping in WA at <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/livestock-animals/livestock-species/bees>.

Here are The City of Belmont Health Local Laws relating to the keeping of bees.

Division 6 - Bee Keeping

Interpretation

103. In this Division, unless the context otherwise requires -

“bees” means an insect belonging to any of the various hymenopterous insects of the super family Apoidea and commonly known as a bee;

“footpath” includes a path used by, or set aside or intended for use by, pedestrians, cyclists or both pedestrians and cyclists;

“hive” means a moveable or fixed structure, container or object in which a colony of bees is kept;

“lot” has the meaning given to it in the *Town Planning and Development Act 1928*; and

“private street” means a street, court, alley, lane, yard, passage or thoroughfare,

- (a) which is not dedicated, whether under an Act or at common law, to use as such by the public; and
- (b) which forms a common access to lands or premises, separately occupied; or
- (c) which is accessible from a street, court, alley, lane, yard, passage, thoroughfare, or public place, which is dedicated, whether under an Act or at common law, to use as such by the public.

Limitation on numbers of Hives

104. (1) A person shall not keep or permit the keeping of bees except on a lot in accordance with this Division.
- (2) Subject to subclause (3), a person shall not keep or permit the keeping of bees without the written consent of the local government.
- (3) A person shall comply with any conditions imposed by the local government under subclause (2).

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Restrictions on keeping of Bees in Hives

105. 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 within 10 metres of the hives;
 - (b) 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; and
 - (c) the hive is enclosed on all sides by a fence, wall or other enclosure.

Bees that cause a nuisance not to be kept

106. (1) A person shall not keep, or permit the keeping of, bees that cause a nuisance.
- (2) The local government may direct any person to remove any bees or beehives that in the opinion of the local government are causing a nuisance.
- (3) A person shall comply with a direction under subclause (2) within the time specified.

For further information or queries please contact Health Services on 9477 7222 or email belmont@belmont.wa.gov.au.