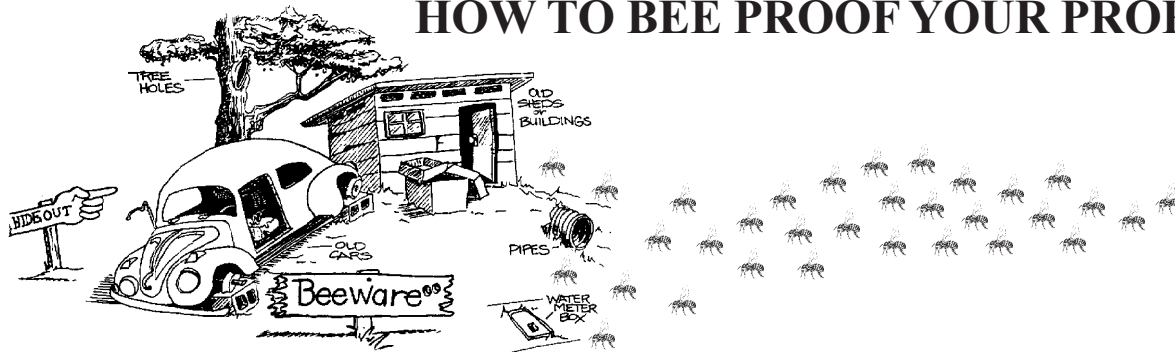


HOW TO BEE PROOF YOUR PROPERTY



- The best way to prevent bees from establishing a colony on your property is to not provide them with an ideal environment for survival. Honey bees require three things in order to survive: food, water and shelter.
- Remember, Africanized honey bees also nest in a wide variety of locations and may enter opening as small as 3/16-inch in diameter (about the size of a pencil eraser) as long as there is a suitable-sized cavity behind the opening for a nest.
- Eliminate shelter. To prevent honey bees from settling in your house or yard, you will need to be vigilant in preventing potential nesting sites.
- Old or abandoned bee hives may attract new swarms.
- Keep shed doors tightly closed and in good repair. Exercise caution when entering buildings that are not used frequently.
- Inspect your home and yard regularly for signs of bee colonies. A single bee or just a few bees in your yard does not necessarily mean you have an established colony on your property because bees will fly some distance in search of food and water. Although honey bees use nectar and pollen from flowers as food, removing flowers as a source of food is generally not an effective bee deterrent.

- Caulk cracks in walls, in the foundation and in the roof.
- Fill or cover all holes 1/8-inch in diameter or larger in trees, structures and/or block walls.
- Check where the chimney meets the house for separation, and make sure chimneys are covered properly.
- Put small-mesh screen such as 1/8-inch hardware cloth over attic vents, irrigation valve boxes and water meter box key holes.
- Remove any trash or debris that might serve as a shelter for honey bees.
- Fill or cover animal burrows in the ground.
- Make sure window and sun screens are tight fitting.



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control operators in your area who are qualified to remove the colony. Do not try to remove colonies yourself!