

DO I NEED APPROVAL?



No, if operating as a hobby (non-commercial) and is ancillary to the predominate use of your property (residential, rural living).

The Shire has the Health Local Law Division 7- bee keeping need to comply too, see attached.

If operating as a commercial- as a business or substantial operation this has planning implications, contact the Planning Department on 08 97 270 222 to discuss.

REQUIREMENT FOR KEEPING BEES

1. Adhere to The Shire has the Health Local Law Division 7- bee keeping
 - Limit to keeping 2 hives on a lot (for more written application required, contact the health Department on 097 270 222 to discuss)
 - Provide an adequate and permanent water supply on the property.
 - Keep the hive at least:
 - 10 metres from any building
 - 10 metres from any footpath, private street/laneway, or public place
 - 5 metres from the lot boundaries
 - the hive is enclosed on all sides by a fence, wall or other enclosure
 - Bee flight paths (from hive to flowers) do not interfere with neighbouring lands, roadway and walking tracks or paths
2. The Biosecurity and Agriculture Management (Identification and Movement of Stock and Apiaries) Regulations 2013 require that all beekeepers in WA must be registered. Registration is through the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) [Registering as an owner of stock or as a beekeeper | Agriculture and Food](#). In addition, each hive must be marked with the owner's registration identifier.
3. Notify your neighbours to avoid complaints



3-WHAT IF I WANT TO SELL HONEY?

If you are going to sell honey either to larger honey packers or direct to the consumer you will need to be [Register Food Business](#).

If selling direct to the consumer then it must be properly packaged and must carry the required food labels. Contact the Health Department on 097 270 222 for further information.

4- COMPLAINTS

If your neighbours are opposed to you keeping bees, The Shire encourage you to discuss with the neighbour in the first instance. If this fails, contact the Shire's Health Department on 097 270 222 to discuss.

If the Shire receives a written complaint, the shire will investigate, assess if a nuisance or danger exist. Owners are prohibited from keeping animals (including bees) if they create a nuisance or is injurious or dangerous to health. If your neighbours are opposed to you keeping bees and the bees are found to be a nuisance then they may have to be removed. Failure to comply may result in an offence.

Health Local Law Division 7- Bee keeping

Interpretation

6.7.1 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 thoroughfare**” has the meaning given to it in *Local Government Act 1995*.

Limitations on numbers of Hives

6.7.2 (1) A person shall not keep or permit the keeping of bees except on a lot in accordance with this Division.

(2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4), a person shall not keep or permit the keeping of bees in more than 2 hives on a lot.

(3) The Council may, upon written application, consent, with or without conditions, to a person keeping bees in more than 2 hives on a lot which is not zoned or classified for residential purposes.

(4) A person shall comply with any conditions imposed by the Council under subsection (3).

Restrictions on keeping of Bees in Hives

6.7.3 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 thoroughfare 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 which cause a nuisance not to be kept

6.7.4 (1) A person shall not keep, or permit the keeping of, bees which cause a nuisance.

(2) The Council may direct any person to remove any bees or beehives which in the opinion of the Principal Environmental Health Officer are causing a nuisance.

(3) A person shall comply with a direction within the time specified.

Department:	Health Department	Next review:
Reviewer:		Adopted:
Amended:	Date	Version: