

# LEDUC'S BACKYARD BEEKEEPING PILOT PROGRAM

## NEIGHBOUR NOTIFICATION LETTER



DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST & LAST NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

Hello Neighbour,

I am writing to inform you that I am applying to the City of Leduc for a beekeeping licence under their Backyard Beekeeping Pilot Program. As per the City's Backyard Beekeeping Guidelines, I am providing you with notification of my intention to keep bees and partake in beekeeping activities.

The City will only grant beekeeping licences to applicants who meet the guidelines (see back of letter) and the Animal Licencing and Control Bylaw 1019-2019.

The licence would be for a two-year pilot program only, and will expire at the end of the program. At this time the continuation of the program will be reviewed, based on the results of the pilot project.

Before issuing a licence the City of Leduc Environmental Inspector will be contacting you and other adjacent neighbours to discuss questions or concerns you may have. If there is a permanent resident at your address with a bee allergy, please let me and/or the Environmental Inspector know.

See the City's website [www.leduc.ca/hensandbees](http://www.leduc.ca/hensandbees) for more information or contact the Environmental Inspector directly through the Eco-Smart Hotline (780) 980-7107 or [ecosmart@leduc.ca](mailto:ecosmart@leduc.ca).

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS



**Questions? Contact the Eco-smart Hotline 780 980 7107**



# YARD SITE AND HIVE REQUIREMENTS

## Yard Site Specifications

- Properties shall have a maximum of 1 hive and must have 1 nucleus hive (also referred to as a nuc).
- Beehive and nuc must be within a fenced rear yard of a property.
- Beehive and nuc must be placed at least 3 metres away from all adjacent property lines, unless neighbouring properties are separated by a solid fence or vegetative hedge at least 2 metres high.
- Beehive and nuc must be a maximum height of 6 feet.
- Beehive and nuc must be a minimum of 3 metres from public right-of-ways (e.g., lanes, pedestrian pathways, sidewalks) or private roads.
- Yard sites must be located at least 25 metres away from public places and gathering spaces including, but not limited to schools, parks, playgrounds, sports fields or hospitals.

## Beehive and Nuc Specifications

- Beehives and nucs must have a bottom board and a hive top cover.
- Beehives must be situated to allow bees a direct flightpath to the beehive and nuc while controlling the potential for bees becoming a nuisance for neighbours.
- Bee flightpath must be greater than 2 metres high. This may be done by placing a fence or vegetative obstruction in front of the hive entrance to encourage bees to fly upward as soon as they exit the hive.
- Direct hive entrances away from adjacent properties, unless doing so will compromise the healthy function of the beehive and nuc (e.g., resulting in poor sun or excessive wind exposure).
- Beehives and nucs may consist of a total of up to six supers that are recommended to be set up as four for the beehive and two for the nuc.

## Beehive Care and Safety

- Beekeepers must engage in good management and husbandry practices to prevent aggressive behavior and disease.
- All bees must be obtained from reliable sources and aggressive bees must be returned safely to a bee distributor and replaced.
- Beekeepers must provide a constant source of water for the beehives and nucs from before spring snowmelt and continuing late into fall to deter the bees from seeking water from alternate sources (e.g. bird baths, or dog dishes).
- The Environmental Inspector must be notified of any unusual behaviours such as swarming, signs of disease or any situation that is not covered under these guidelines.
- Beekeepers must carry liability insurance (valued at not less than \$2,000,000 Canadian dollars) to cover accidents related to their bees and beekeeping activities. Insurance may be obtained through the Edmonton & District Beekeepers Association or by speaking to a reputable insurance provider.
- The area around the beehive and nuc must be kept free of hive scrapings or other debris to minimize the likelihood of attracting other bees, wasps or other unwanted visitors.
- Beekeepers must make arrangements and designate someone to monitor the beehive and nuc if they will be away for an extended period of time (e.g., more than one week). It is recommended that a designated person visit and monitor the beehive, nuc and property at least once a week.