

Benefits of Bees / Hornets / Wasps

Bees, hornets and wasps are very beneficial insects because, as you all know, they are the pollinators of flowering plants. They also help in reducing the number of many insect pest species by feeding on them. Control should only be considered when there is an immediate threat to people or their pets because bees, hornets and wasps are so beneficial. They will feed on nectar, honeydew, sap, fruit juices, etc.

If you should decide that you are going to eliminate a nest on your own, please follow the following instructions:

1. **Go after the nest at night.** When the sun has completely gone down, all bees are within the nest. When you kill the nest AT DARK, you will have gotten ALL the colony with no strays coming back to the nest mad because their nest is gone.
2. **A bee veil should be worn.** Along with other appropriate protective clothing such as: gloves, long sleeves shirt (and jacket) and long pants, shoes and socks. Expect any escaping bees to be angry and aggressive. Any part of your body exposed is subject to stinging. Many people are allergic to the bee sting.
3. **Use a flashlight sparingly.** Only flash the light long enough to locate the nest and to find the entrance opening where you will be inserting the chemical, turning it off each time you have located your bearings. Some of the bees might escape, so you don't want them to find you because you are holding the light.
4. **Insert the chemical into the hive opening.** Be prepared with another chemical for quick knock-down of any guard bees to prevent them from getting free to sting... you or anyone else. Guard bees are the ones around the entrance hole protecting the nest. Be sure to spray enough pesticide into the nest to kill the entire nest, injecting at random locations around the nest. When you no longer hear that familiar buzzing of dying wasps, you might have finished them off, but beware of any still surviving, I guarantee they will be mad.
5. **Remove the nest after the bees have been killed,** if it is easily accessible. This is solely for appearance purposes. If the nest is left, it will not be re-inhabited by bees, although mites occasionally will move in.

Some select flies, moths and beetles will mimic types of bees for the purpose of protection from potential predators.