



BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

2018
Good Day;

Thank you for your interest in keeping honey bees in Pennsylvania!
Information which may be of interest to you includes: an Apiary Registration form, the Voluntary Pennsylvania Apiary Advisory Board's Best Management Practices (BMPs), a list of Pa' s beekeeping clubs, and a list of helpful websites.

Please complete and return the Apiary Registration form with a check or money order for \$10.00 to the address listed at the bottom of the form.

Please read the Best Management Practices (BMP) form and if you agree to follow those practices, sign and date the form. Keep this form filed at your home. The BMPs has been helpful for beekeepers if neighbors or local government have a problems or complaints about managed honey bees. In addition, the BMP are helpful to assure those concerned that the beekeeper is trying to be a good neighbor and a responsible citizen.

In 1994, the Apiary Advisory Board (a group of industry leaders who advise the Secretary of Agriculture on bee-related matters) recommended that the Pennsylvania Bee Law be amended to require all beekeepers in the state register their apiaries. This amendment was adopted, as was a ten-dollar licensing fee (valid for approximately for two years) to help cover the administrative costs of mandatory registration. The advantages of registration are clear: it makes bee inspection more efficient and provides a means to alert beekeepers about potential threats to their bees. For instance, this office gives apiary location information to DEP officials before they apply mosquito (West Nile virus) control sprays. By alerting beekeepers, accidental bee poisonings may be avoided.

The list of PA beekeeping organizations provides information about local beekeeping organizations, as well as the PA State Beekeepers Association (PSBA) (<http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org>). There are many benefits in belonging to a local organization and the PSBA. We encourage you to attend a meeting or an event with these organizations and consider becoming a member of a local organizations and the PSBA.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office regarding any other questions or concerns.

Best wishes on your beekeeping endeavors,

Sincerely,

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