

AFRICANIZED HONEY BEES (AHB)

Who to Call

- Multiple Stinging Emergencies
Call 911
- Swarms / Hives (outside of a building)
Contact the District at (310) 915-7370
- Swarms / Hives (inside of a building)
Contact a licensed structural pest control operator

Mistaken Identities (Bees)

Africanized Honey Bee (AHB) European Honey Bee (EHB)

- Look identical
- Nests in ground, trees & structures
- AHB can be more defensive if colony is disturbed



Length: 5/8"

Bumble Bee

- Nests in ground



Length: 1/4" to 1"

Carpenter Bee

- Generally docile
- Solitary
- Nests in wood



Length: 3/4" to 1"

Mistaken Identities (Wasps)

Yellow Jacket

- Aggressive if disturbed
- Attracted to food
- Nests in ground, trees & structures



Length: 5/8" to 3/4"

Paper Wasp

- Nests on or in structures (i.e. eaves)



Length: 5/8" to 1"

Mud Dauber

- Solitary
- Generally docile
- Small mud nests on or in structures



Length: 7/8" to 1 1/4"

Sand Wasp

- Solitary
- Generally docile
- Burrows in sand



Length: 4/5" to 1"

AHB ACTIVITY & OUTDOOR SAFETY

Recognize Honey Bee Activity



Foraging Bees

Worker bees in search of pollen, nectar or water. Generally passive but can sting in defense if provoked.



Swarm

A resting cluster of bees in search of a new place to live. Stay away from swarms.



Hive

As a general rule, stay away from all hives. Bees are more likely to become defensive after their colony is established.

If You Discover a Swarm or Hive

- Avoid the area
- Do not disturb or tease bees
- Keep children and pets away from the area
- Do not control or remove the bees yourself
- Do not throw rocks, shoot, burn, spray water or use aerosol pesticides on the bees

Outdoor Safety

- Be alert outdoors
- Be cautious and respectful of bees and wasps
- Carry an allergy kit if allergic to stings
- Develop a safety plan for your home and yard
- Use care when entering sheds or outbuildings
- Examine area before operating power equipment. Loud noises and vibrations may disturb bees.
- Do not pen or tether animals near a bee hive
- Stay alert when horseback riding or hiking. Keep dogs under control.



BEE-PROOF YOUR HOME

Bee-Proof Your Home

Check weekly for swarms and hives on your property. Bees entering or leaving the same area of your home or yard may indicate the presence of a hive.



Building Maintenance

- Inspect the outside walls and eaves of home and outbuildings
- Keep shed and garage doors closed
- Seal openings larger than 1/8" in walls, around chimneys, plumbing and storage sheds
- Install fine screens (1/16" hardware cloth) over tops of rain spouts, vents, and openings in water meter, cable, and utility boxes
- Inspect outdoor pet areas

Yard Maintenance

- Remove and/or thin overgrown vegetation
- Fill and plug all tree holes, ground holes, and rodent burrows
- Discard empty containers, tires, boxes and trash

IF YOU ARE STUNG

If Attacked

- Leave the area quickly
- Protect head and face with arms and/or available clothing
- Seek shelter in the nearest building or vehicle
- Do not jump into water
- Remove stingers as quickly as possible
- **Call 911**

If Stung

- Go quickly to a safe area
- Remove the stinger(s) as soon as possible
- Scrape the stinger out with a fingernail or credit card; avoid squeezing the venom sac
- Wash the sting area with soap and water and apply an ice pack
- Seek immediate medical attention for multiple stings and allergic reactions (difficulty breathing, hives, dizziness or fainting)



Bee Nesting Sites

