



**GRAFTON**  
QUALITY LIFE. NATURALLY.

# Keeping of Bees Permit Application

Village of Grafton Planning and Development Department  
860 Badger Circle, Grafton, WI 53024  
p (262) 375-5303 f (262) 375-5312  
[jwolf@village.grafton.wi.us](mailto:jwolf@village.grafton.wi.us)

**Application fee: New \$50, Annual Renewal \$25**

## PROPERTY INFORMATION

1. Property address: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONTACT INFORMATION

2. Applicant is:    Property Owner    Owner's Agent    Developer    Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. Applicant's name: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

5. City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

## PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

7. Property owner name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

8. Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

9. City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

## REQUEST INFORMATION

11. Description of request: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Attach a site plan in compliance with Zoning Ordinance Section 19/03/17(N) including the location of all structures located on the applicant's real property, the location of all structures located on all abutting property, and the site of the proposed hives.

13. Attach drawings or photos of the proposed hive(s) design.

## REQUIRED SIGNATURE(S) FOR ALL APPLICATIONS

I hereby certify that all statements, forms, and attachments submitted hereto are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Zoning Ordinance Section 19/03/17(N) Conditions for Keeping of Bees. The following regulations apply to this land use:

3. General Conditions.
  - a. No person may keep colonies or hives in any way that causes a public nuisance, causes an unreasonable risk of physical harm to any person or domestic animal, unreasonably interferes with normal activities of persons or domestic animals, or unreasonably interferes with the normal use and enjoyment of any private or public property. Compliance with all of the requirements of this section shall create a rebuttable presumption of compliance with this subsection.
  - b. No person may intentionally keep colonies or hives of bees other than Honey Bees, except for wild bees that select their hive location naturally.
  - c. All colonies shall be kept in manufactured, Langstroth-type hives with removable frames, which shall be maintained in sound and sanitary condition.
  - d. Beekeepers shall allow inspection of hives by the Community Development Department at least once per year, upon reasonable notice from the Department.
4. Location of Hives.
  - a. Hives shall not be located in front or side yards, and shall be located only in rear yards.
  - b. Hives shall not be located less than 10 feet, measured at the closest points, from the boundary of the property on which the Hives are located and any other property, unless the properties on either side of the boundary are owned by the same individual or entity.
5. Maximum Number of Hives Allowed. No person shall keep more than the following numbers of Hives in the Village:
  - a. Parcels one-quarter acre or less are allowed two Hives.
  - b. Parcels larger than one-quarter acre but no larger than one-half acre are allowed four Hives.
  - c. Parcels larger than one-half acre but no larger than one acre, are allowed six Hives.
  - d. Parcels larger than one acre, are allowed eight Hives.
  - e. Additional hives for parcels larger than one acre may be approved by the Plan Commission by conditional use permit.
6. Queens. Queens shall be selected from European stock bred for gentleness and non-swarming characteristics.
7. Aggressive Behavior. If any Colony repeatedly exhibits unusually-aggressive behavior, or exhibits an unusual tendency towards swarming, the Beekeeper shall promptly re-queen the Colony, and if re-queening fails to stop the behavior, remove or destroy the Colony.
8. Maintenance. Beekeepers shall maintain all Hives and Beekeeping Equipment in a good and sanitary condition, and shall observe at all times the best accepted practices recognized within the beekeeping industry. Beekeepers shall ensure that no honey comb or other materials that might attract wildlife, rodents or vermin are left open on the property. Upon removal from the Hive, all such materials shall be promptly disposed of in a sealed container, or placed within a building or other bee proof enclosure.
9. Compliance with Other Laws. Beekeepers shall at all times comply with all other requirements of the Waukesha Municipal Code, including zoning and property maintenance codes; and shall observe all federal, state and local laws applicable to Beekeeping and the production and sale of honey.
10. Inspection. Beekeepers shall comply with all Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Apiary Inspection regulations requiring inspections of Hives and Colonies. Expenses of inspections shall be paid by Beekeepers.
11. Violations and Penalties. Conduct not in compliance with this Section is prohibited. Violation of the terms of this Section shall result in the revocation of the Beekeeping permit for the location. Upon revocation, all Beekeeping at the location shall cease.