



Come Visit A State Apiary!

Are you interested in learning more about honey bees?

If so, join the Apiary Program team for a **Hive Dive** educational program featuring a tour of a live working colony and discussions with bee experts at one of MDAR's two State Apiary locations:

Amherst, MA and Danvers, MA. Visit the Apiary Program website to get more information about where the programs are held:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/farm-products/apiary/>



Get Listed as a Local Honey Producer!

Want to purchase local honey?

Visit the MassGrown map to search your area and find a list of local beekeepers that produce and sell honey:

<http://www.mass.gov/agr/massgrown/honey.htm>

Are you a MA beekeeper that produces and sells honey to the public? If so, get listed as a honey producer for free on the MassGrown map:

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/markets/1-mktg-farm-survey.doc



Contact Us:

Apiary Program

Message Line: 617-626-1801

Chief Apiary Inspector

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Division of Crop and Pest Services

Apiary Program





FAQ

How many honey beekeepers and hives do we have in MA?

There is a large and diverse beekeeping population as current estimates indicate that we have 4-4,500 active beekeepers managing 40-45,000 hives.

How many MA crops rely on honey bees for pollination?

Over 45% of MA agricultural commodities rely on honey bees for crop pollination.

How do I request a hive inspection?

Submit a completed Inspection Request form online to MDAR: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/farm-products/apiary/mdar-apiary-inspection-request-form.html>

Who should I contact if I suspect my honey bees were killed by pesticides?

Contact the Chief Apiary Inspector immediately so that the issue can be promptly investigated.

Who should I contact if I found a nest of honey bees?

Contact your local county bee association to find a list of beekeepers in your area to remove the bees.

“Ensuring the health of honey bees in the Commonwealth”



MDAR's Apiary Program has been established to promote and sustain apiculture in the Commonwealth by providing support to honey beekeepers, pesticide applicators, farmers, land managers, educators, students, regulators, academia, government officials and the public. The Program is comprised of a team of highly trained and knowledgeable staff consisting of a Chief Apiary Inspector and full-time Seasonal Inspectors located throughout the state to service the needs of stakeholders and their honey bees.

Inspectors Perform the Following Services:

- ❖ Inspect, sample and monitor honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) and hive equipment for pest, parasites and pathogens.
- ❖ Register apiaries and colonies for beekeepers.
- ❖ Prevent establishment of new pests, parasites, pathogens, and Africanized honey bees (*Apis mellifera scutellata*) through imported bees and hive equipment.
- ❖ Investigate suspected honey bee kills from pesticides and pathogen spillover from American Foulbrood (*Paenibacillus larvae*).
- ❖ Provide technical assistance, continuing education, and outreach to all audiences on topics related to honey bee biology, health, colony management, and pollination.
- ❖ Issue permits for interstate movement of honey bees and hive equipment.
- ❖ Promote honey beekeepers and the local beekeeping industry through marketing of Massachusetts-produced honey and hive products.
- ❖ Communicate with local, regional and national audiences to stay current on trends in honey bee health, management techniques and treatment options.