

Comprehensive Revision of Dane County Zoning Ordinance

December 19, 2016
City County Building

Domestic Beekeeping

Domestic Beekeeping

Summary of Proposed Changes

- **Develop definition to distinguish from commercial apiculture**
- **Establish standards for number of hives, access to water, etc.**
- **Allow in residential areas, similar to the way domestic fowl (chickens) are handled**

Domestic beekeeping Definition

Current Ordinance

Beekeeping.

Keeping of more than 1 hive for each 10,000 square feet of lot or parcel area.

Proposed Ordinance

Domestic beekeeping.

One hive for each 10,000 square feet of lot or parcel area, or less.

Domestic Beekeeping Standards and requirements

Current Ordinance

- None.

Proposed Ordinance

- (a) Bees. The keeping of honeybees in the yards of single family residences or duplexes located in any zoning district shall be a permitted use, if the use complies with the following:
 1. No hive exceeds twenty (20) cubic feet in volume.
 2. There are not more than one hive for every 10,000 square feet of lot area
 3. A constant supply of water is provided for all hives
- (b) Location of covered and fenced enclosures and hives.
 1. Covered and fenced enclosures or hives shall be within the rear or side yard.
 2. Covered and fenced enclosures or hives shall not be closer than 25 feet to any residential structure on an adjacent lot.
 3. Covered and fenced enclosures or hives shall not be located closer than 75 feet from the ordinary high water mark of any lake, river, or stream.

Domestic Beekeeping Zoning Districts

Current Ordinance

- Not specifically listed.

Proposed Ordinance

- Permitted use
 - Single Family Residential
 - Two Family Residential
 - Rural Residential
 - Rural Mixed Use