How to Share Swarmed as a Public Resource

Purpose

This document is for municipalities, community organizations, and partner agencies that want to share Swarmed as a safe, trusted referral for honey bee colony reports.

Honey bee swarms and colonies are natural phenomena that happen hundreds of thousands of times a year. Most people don't know what to do when they spot a swarm or wild bee colony.

Swarmed provides a directory of over 10,000 local beekeepers to save bees from the exterminator and make it easy for communities to get help with honey bee-related issues.

Why Share Swarmed?

Sharing Swarmed gives your community:

- A clear public referral path for bee and wasp-related inquiries that are not emergencies.
- Faster response by connecting residents directly to local beekeepers.
- Reduced strain on city services by diverting non-urgent calls away from 91, animal control, parks services, etc.
- **Support for pollinator conservation** at a time when beekeepers are dealing with record hive losses.

How to Share It Effectively

Cities and organizations can:

- Link to <u>beeswarmed.org</u> from service directories, free "Report a Colony" services, and educational pages on dealing with honey bees.
- Post about Swarmed on official social media channels during the spring and summer swarm season.

- Sharing these materials with the relevant personnel
- Include Swarmed in seasonal newsletters or resident information bulletins.
- Add it to scripts for non-emergency call centers so operators can refer directly.

Ready-to-Use Blurbs

Short

If you see a honey bee swarm or colony in your neighborhood, visit <u>beeswarmed.org</u> to report it at no cost. Your report will connect you with local beekeepers who can provide safe bee removal and humane honey bee relocation.

Medium

Honey bee swarms and established colonies can appear in trees, walls, sheds, or other structures. Bees are important pollinators, but should be handled carefully. beeswarmed.org provides a free public reporting tool to connect residents with local beekeepers for safe honey bee removal and relocation. Beekeepers can assess the situation and arrange humane bee removal without the need for extermination. This protects pollinators, reduces unnecessary emergency calls, and supports local agriculture.

Long

Honey bee swarms are clusters of bees temporarily gathered while searching for a new home, while colonies are established hives that may be located in walls, roofs, or other structures. Both are essential to pollination and food production, but can cause concern if they appear near homes or public spaces.

<u>beeswarmed.org</u> is a free public reporting service for both bee swarm removal and honey bee colony relocation. Reports are sent directly to nearby beekeepers who can arrange safe, humane honey bee removal, often within hours.

This service provides an alternative to extermination, helps protect pollinator populations, and ensures the public can respond quickly and appropriately. Swarmed is a satellite partner of the California Master Beekeeper Program at the University of California, Davis, and works with more than 10,000 beekeepers nationwide.