

**FOR  
SALE**

# Beekeeping in Urban Areas

Where to put your bees!



# Check the laws in your area

- Go online
  - Regulations such as distance from property lines
  - Neighbors signatures



# Considerations

- **Neighbors**
- **Pools**
- **Fences**
- **Dogs**
- **Children**
- **Shade**
- **Water**
- **Nectar & pollen**



# Location with in the law



# Fences make good neighbors!

- Out of sight out of mind
- Encourages bees to fly high-out of the flight path



# Think it through!

## What's wrong with this picture?



- Cement base – good
- Hives facing out – bad
- Children next door

# Provide Water



- Pools
- Provide alternate water
  - Feeders
  - Bird bath

# Dog Bowls & Birdbaths



- Rough sides work better





# Water Gardens

- Provide water
- Respite for beekeepers



# Animal Damage



- Protect bees from horses and cows
- Provide easy access

# Ponds

- Provide water
- Low areas can cause early morning fog & cool areas
- Provide opportunities for birdwatching



# Some Dogs Learn Quickly

- Some learn to make a wide path
- Some never learn
- Some eat every bee that flies by



# Children

- Some learn to make a wide berth
- Some never learn
- Isolate the bees
  - **High fence or “box”**
  - **Place out of the walkway**



# Ideally

- Morning sun, afternoon shade
- Windbreak on north side
- Face hives east or south



# Storage Issues

- Sometimes you have to rent a space
- City & Sub Division Ordinances can cause problems



# More storage issues

- City & Sub Division Ordinances





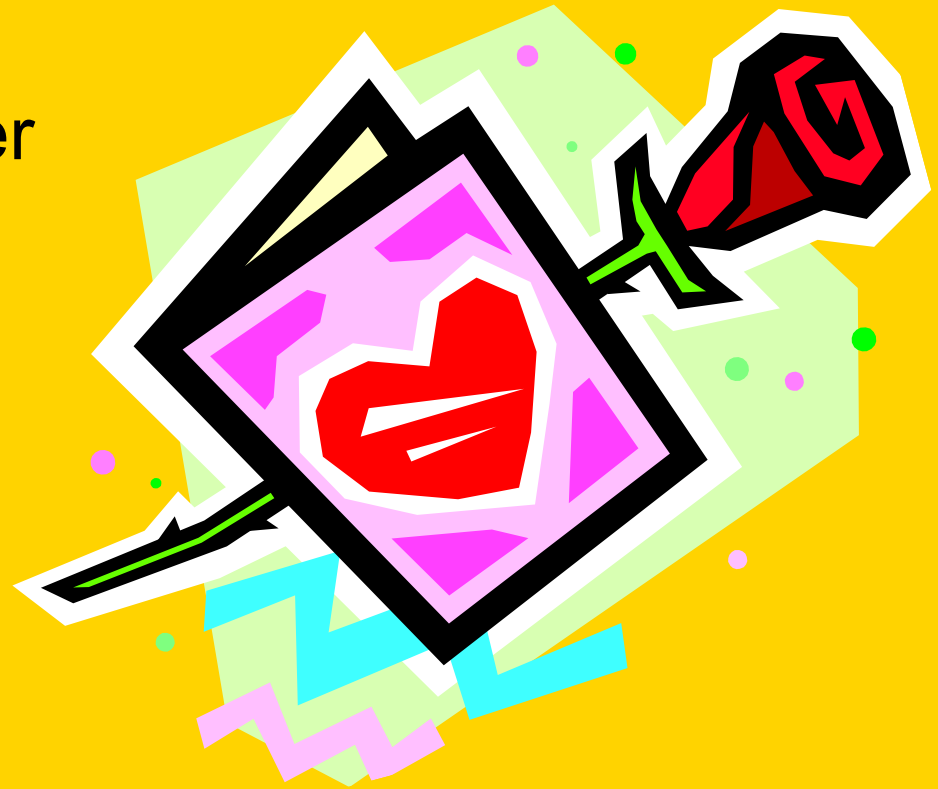
# Availability of Nectar & Pollen

- Drive around and look at the plants that are out there



# Romantic Locations

- Go through a gate
- Get a key from farmer
- High on a hill
- Wildflowers
- Deer
- Lovely pond
- Look at pros & cons



# Common Sense Locations

- Easy access, all year
- Minimal amount of gates-key available all the time
- Solid road in all weather, even rainy years
- Honey & pollen plants available
- Water near by
- Windbreak
- Southern exposure



- **There is no subject of more importance to the beekeeper, nor is there one that gives him more pleasure, than the study of the honey producing flowers. -----Doolittle**



# Red Maple

- Early February
- Nectar
- Pollen, tan



# Pussy Willow

- February
- Early March
- Nectar & Pollen
- Host plant for Viceroy & Red-Spotted Purple Butterflies



# Dandelion

- March to November
- Nectar & Pollen
- Pollen color produces very yellow wax on new foundation



# Henbit

- End of March & Early April
- Nectar
- Pollen-red to purple





# Redbud and Flowering Crab



- End of March
- Early April
- Nectar
- Spring build up—multiple trees in bloom

# Domestic Fruit Trees - Apple



- April
- 2-5 hives needed per acre of trees
- Nectar stimulates brood rearing
- Pollen

# Brambles



- Brambles include blackberries & raspberries
- May
- “Blackberry Winter”
- Nectar

# Vegetable Gardens

## Cucurbits

- Cucumbers – pollen
  - Insects transfer pollen from male to female flowers
- Squash, Pumpkins, Melons - pollen & nectar



# Herbs

- Aren't honey plants but provide minor nectar
- Mints, sages, oregano, thyme, lavender, borage,



# Black Locust

- May
- Nectar, light & mild tasting
- Flowers very fragrant
- Short bloom period, 10 days
- Poor weather
  - Usually rains
  - Hails
  - Heavy winds



# Alfalfa & Scurfy Pea

- Several cuttings, hay
- Seed Production
- Nectar & Pollen
- Quickly granulates
- Florets have a tripping mechanism



# Earliest Clovers



- Many varieties of clover
- Alsike & White Dutch Clover
- Long bloom periods
- Late April-August
- Nectar, very light
- Pollen, brown



# Yellow Sweet Clover

- Mid-May through June
- Nectar & Pollen



# White Sweet Clover



- Mid-May until Mid-July
- Nectar & Pollen



# Red Clover



- Myth
- Very deep flower
- Can be a valuable honey plant in a very dry year
- Or third or fourth cutting
- Pollen

# Smartweed (Heartsease)



- August until frost
- Nectar

# Annual Sunflower

- August & September
- Amber Honey
- Pollen



# Goldenrod

- August - October
- Nectar & Pollen
- Nectar source for butterflies
- Granulates with a coarse grain
- Excellent winter feed for bees



# New England Aster

- September to frost
- Nectar
- Granulates quickly
- Very strong smell in hives

