

Getting Rid of Bees

By DoMyOwn staff

Bumble bees are a friend to man in most circumstances and are naturally beneficial in the pollination of crops and flowers. In most cases, local bee keeper can be called out to collect and relocate the bumble bee hive humanely to prevent damaging the pollinator population. They should never be destroyed unless the bees are posing a real health and safety risk-for example when large numbers are nesting too close to a home or recreational area, especially where children or people sensitive to bee venom are present. Sometimes if bumble bees are just a bother but not hurting anyone, a local beekeeper can be called out to collect them humanely and relocate the hive.

Protective Clothing

Anytime you interfere with the routine activity of bumble bees there is risk of being attacked and stung, so it is very important to wear protective clothing! (**Note:** people who have a history of severe or mild reaction to insect stings should not perform these treatments). At the very minimum, the following should be worn when treating for bumble bees:

- [Light colored, heavy coveralls or a bee suit](#)
- [High-sleeved gloves of canvas or leather](#)
- [A hat or helmet with secure-fitting veil](#)

Treating Ground Nests

- 1) Try to locate the nest by watching bees during the day and taking note of where they disappear into the landscape or structure.
- 2) At night (using a flashlight), apply [D-Force HPX](#) aerosol directly into the nest. Make sure to wear protective clothing!
- 3) [Delta Dust](#) also works well and provides excellent coverage when applied in and around the nest. Delta Dust lasts 4 to 6 months and will result in a quick kill. Apply dust liberally using a [centrobulb duster](#) (for easier application) and repeat in 3 to 4 months to control for newly hatched bees.
- 4) For thick or heavy ground coverings where bumble bees are active but the exact nest location is not known, a liquid insecticide like [Demon WP](#) or [Cynoff WP](#) may be broadcast over the entire area. The area should be well drenched, especially on and around suspected nest entrances. Keep tabs on the bumble bee population over the next 10 to 14 days; repeat as needed.

Treating Nests in Structural Voids

Sometimes bumble bees will nest in various elements of a home or structure, such as ceiling and wall voids, in the eaves behind fascia board, soffits, in hollow cement blocks, and inside excavated wood galleries. Such nests are best treated by drilling into the infested void and injecting the nest with [Delta Dust](#) insecticide.

- 1) **Locate the nest.** If you are not sure exactly where the nest is located, use a listening device to hone in as close as possible to the exact location.
- 2) **Drill small holes directly into the nest from inside of the structure** If it is not possible to drill from the inside, the drilling can be done outside. If you do this, be sure to leave any outside entrance holes open until the beginning of fall when hatching is sure to be completed. Then the entrance may be sealed to prevent further nest establishment.
- 3) Apply [Delta Dust](#) liberally using a [centrobulb duster](#) (for easier application)
- 4) **Seal any inside holes.**
- 5) **Repeat in 3 to 4 months** to control for newly hatched bees.

Further Prevention for Bumble Bees

- Prevent nest establishment by filling animal holes or burrows with dirt.
- Keep bees outside the structure by repair any holes in the exterior wall and making sure that all vents and windows have tight-fitting screens.
- Seal over the chimney flu temporarily with tape and plastic sheeting if bees are entering here.
- Certain trees and shrubs that may be attracting bumble bees (because of sweet nectar) may be either removed or specifically treated with insecticide to repel bees without harming them.

Recommended Products for Bumble Bee Control

[Delta Dust Insecticide](#)

Delta Dust is the only waterproof dust available, great for wall voids and cracks and crevices.

[D-Force HPX](#)

Residual insecticide that provides 100% control of crawling pests (including bedbugs and termites) for up to 8 weeks.

[Cynoff WP](#)

A loose white powder that is mixed with water to create an effective residual insecticide.

[Demon WP Insecticide](#)

For crack and crevice and/or spot applications for residual and contact control of many insect pests.

Related Articles:

[Bumble Bees Identification and Biology](#)

[How To Get Rid of Carpenter Bees](#)

[How To Get Rid of Honey Bees](#)

[Swarming: Questions and Answers](#)