

First Responder incident plan for Africanized Honey Bee and stinging incidents

List the individuals approved to respond to Bee Sting Incidents.

- 1
- 2
- 3

List the individuals who are allergic and should not respond to Bee Sting Incidents.

- 1
- 2
- 3

- **Emergency personnel with known allergies to stinging insects should stay away!**

Dispatcher Upon receiving a call, get information about the incident.

What is the location of the incident? _____

Get a call back number. _____

How many people are being stung? _____

Is the incident close to a school, day care center, nursing home, or shopping center? (200 ft or less) _____

Where is the victim located? So you can stop a safe distance away to evaluate the situation. _____

Where are the bees located or coming from? (This may not be the same area where the victim is located.) _____

Relay information to the response team commander.

- **If the incident is close to a school, day care or other building with numerous occupants, the school principal, day care owner, or building manager should be contacted and advised to keep the occupants in doors and close any windows and doors that may be open.**
- **Identify sensitive sites in your service area and have the number easily accessible.**

First Responders

Victim Rescue

- It is the responsibility of emergency responders to keep the incident from escalating.
- Law enforcement should quarantine a minimum one block or ¼ mile radius from the incident by notifying the public to stay inside homes, vehicles or other immediate shelter to avoid further attacks.

Emergency Procedures

- Upon arrival at the scene, do not get too close to the bees, about 150 ft from the stinging incident is recommended.
- After arriving on site, rescue personnel should **evaluate** the situation from within their vehicles.
 - Is the victim conscious?
 - Is the victim in a safe environment or is he or she currently under attack from bees?
 - Has the victim been stung multiple times?
 - Is there a possibility of other people being in danger? This includes other emergency personnel.
 - Are pets involved?
- Call for additional help if it is determined it is needed
 - Call secondary responders for rescue
 - Call for additional ambulance assistance to transport victims if it is required.
 - Notify the receiving hospital.
 - Call for bee keeper or pest control operators for bee removal if bees are not in the open.

Identify the chosen personnel and make their contact information readily available.

- **While the situation is being evaluated**
 1. Three (3) Firefighters should be putting on full protective clothing, including bee veils or full bee suits.
 2. Isolate the area and determine the “Hot Zone” (bees present) and “Safe Zone”.
 3. Set up a Command Post in a “Safe Zone”.
 4. Evacuate the area- or block streets and roads to keep people out of the “hot zone”.
 5. Ambulances and unprotected emergency personnel should stay in the “Safe Zone”

Approach

A swarm can be quickly killed with an AFFF foam system and using a full fog pattern.

- Use a one to three percent spray of one of the foaming/wetting agents and a nozzle capable of delivering a wide fan pattern.
- A quick attack (1 ½) hose line shall be pulled and hooked to the apparatus AFFF foam system.
- The 1 ½ hose line shall be pumped at 80-100 psi at 95 gpm.
- The hose line should be pulled by the firefighters at a quick pace toward the victim, with a full fog pattern on the nozzle - sweeping the air surrounding the firefighters and the victim.
- A light initial application to the victim will stop the attack by most of the bees on or near the victim in approximately 60 seconds.
- The victim should be quickly picked up while at the same time sweeping the surrounding air with the AFFF foam line.
- Continue spraying the foam into the air and on the firefighters and victim until you reach the “safe zone.”

If a foam system is not available protect the victims head with a blanket and remove them from the hot zone.

Victim Transport and Aid

- Once victim is evacuated be aware of live bees that may be in the area before loading victim into the ambulance.
- Even in their weakened state these bees will still have the capability to sting.
- If a small number of bees have entered the ambulance or other emergency vehicle lower the windows as you drive to allow the bees to escape.
- Once the victim is secured in an ambulance follow your established protocols, be sure to check for signs of shock and allergic reactions.
- **Remove any stinger carefully using a credit card or real dull knife (do not squeeze the stinger to remove it).**
- Remember! Be careful not to swat or crush the bees. Other bees will be attracted to the pheromone that is released when the bee is crushed.
- 15 or more stings should receive medical attention

Follow Up

Maintain control of the scene until the threat to public safety from bee stings no longer exists.

- If a bee control specialist is called to remove the colony from a structure or tree, the security at the site should remain until there is no danger to the public.
- It may take several hours for the bees to calm down before attempting removal.
- Be careful around electric meters, and electrical boxes. Electricity and water do not mix.

Bee Samples

- If you encounter a suspected AHB colony or swarm in Kansas
Call **Tom Sanders** ph 785-862-2180
or **Glenn Salsbury** ph 620-231-0304

We will aid in sample collection for identification or DNA testing.

County Extension in the county where the colony or swarm is located may also offer instruction or assistance in sampling of suspect colonies and having them identified.

All suspect colonies should be reported!

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11/13/06