



Dealing with wasps and bees nests on allotments

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Wasps

If there is a wasp's nest on your allotment site our advice is not to handle these yourself. Milton Keynes Council offers a Pest Control Service for them to deal with the nest professionally. They normally charge £50 plus Vat and can be contacted on 01908 252551.

Bees

Each type of bee needs to be handled differently. The first thing you need to do is identify the kinds of bees that you have. Once you've done that's here's is a guide to what you can do with them:

If you have [honey bees](#) then get in touch with a Bee Keeping Association who maybe able to remove them for you. The success of moving a colony of bees depends on its location and the chances of locating or moving the queen. If the nest and colony can be accessed easily, then the chances of successfully moving the colony are increased.

If you have a [bumble bee](#) nest then it's unlikely it will be unable to be moved successfully. Unfortunately most bumble bee colonies are damaged by the movement process to the point where they cannot recover. We suggest that if you have a bumble bee colony you should leave it alone until the queen departs at the end of the season and then block off the entrance or remove it, so that other bees and mammals cannot reuse the nest next year. Bumble bees are sufficiently gentle that they do not generally cause a problem if their nest site is treated with respect.

For many kinds of bees, you can adopt the approach we recommend for bumble bees and leave them alone until they depart the nest, then block up any entrances so that the nest site is not reused.

Many solitary bees are very unlikely to sting, and are efficient pollinators, you may like to welcome them into your garden especially when growing flowering fruit and vegetables.