Bees In Our Environment

- What To Do In a Bee Encounter/First Aid

What to Do In A Bee Encounter

- As a general rule, stay away from all bee swarms and colonies.
- If bees are encountered, get away quickly.
- While running away, try to protect face and eyes as much as possible.
- Take shelter in a car or building. Water or thick brush does not offer enough protection.
- Do not stand and swat at bees: rapid motions will cause them to sting.

What to Do If Stung/First Aid

- Go quickly to a safe area
- Remove stinger as soon as possible
- Don’t squeeze the stinger; pressure will release more venom
- Scrape the stinger out with fingernail, knife blade or credit card
- Wash sting area with soap and water like any other wound
- Apply ice pack for a few minutes to relieve pain and swelling
- Seek medical attention (call 911):
  - If breathing is troubled,
  - If stung numerous times or
  - If allergic to bee stings.