

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 31-10

AN ORDINANCE  
REPEALING SECTION 27.610 AND  
CREATING SECTION 8.097,  
GREEN BAY MUNICIPAL CODE,  
RELATING TO BEEKEEPING

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN BAY DOES ORDAIN AS  
FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1.** Section 27.610, Green Bay Municipal Code, is hereby repealed.

**27.610 BEEKEEPING.** The keeping or raising of bees is a public nuisance and is prohibited.

**SECTION 2.** Section 8.097, Green Bay Municipal Code, is hereby created to read:

**8.097 BEEKEEPING.**

(1) **DEFINITIONS.** The following words, as used in this ordinance, shall have the meanings ascribed to them:

(a) “Apiary” shall mean all hives kept for the purpose of beekeeping and any area within 10 feet of such hives.

(b) “Beekeeping” means intentionally creating, fostering or maintaining a colony of honeybees.

(c) “Hive” shall mean a structure built to accommodate a colony of honeybees.

(d) “Honeybee” shall mean any life stage of the European honeybee (*Apis mellifera*)

(2) **BEEKEEPING BY PERMIT ONLY.** No person shall engage in beekeeping without having first obtained a permit from the Humane Officer and having paid a permit fee of \$10. In reviewing a permit application, the Humane Officer shall consider the number of honeybees to be possessed, their location, the facilities to be used for such purpose, and the likelihood of a public or private nuisance being created. Any person denied a permit may appeal to the Protection & Welfare Committee.

(3) **MANNER OF KEEPING.**

(a) All hives shall have combs which are kept in sound and usable condition and removable for inspection.

(b) The apiary shall be entirely located on one parcel of land.

(c) There shall be a flyway consisting of a solid wall, fence, vegetation, or combination thereof at least 6 feet in height erected along any property line located within 25 feet of an apiary.

(d) A property owner shall cause any abandoned hive to be removed from the property.

(e) No hive may house a colony of insects other than honeybees.

(f) The provisions of Sections 8.06(1), Green Bay Municipal Code, do not apply to beekeeping.

(4) **ILLEGAL COLONIES OR HIVES.** If the Humane Officer finds any hive kept in violation of this ordinance, he or she may order the violation corrected within 30 days. If the property owner fails to correct the violation within 30 days, the hive in violation may be destroyed and/or removed from the municipality by the Humane Officer, or his or her designee, and the cost thereof shall be charged back to the property owner as a special charge pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 66.0627.

**SECTION 3.** All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 4.** This ordinance shall take effect on and after its passage and publication

Dated at Green Bay, Wisconsin, this 21st day of September, 2010.

APPROVED:

/s/James J. Schmitt  
Mayor

ATTEST:

Chad J. Weininger  
Clerk

First Reading: 09/07/10  
Effective Date: 09/25/10