



# F A Q

## Why do you charge for your bee removals?

**Answer:** There is an inconsistency in

what people may expect from local bee removal services and how this can cost money, which can be very confusing!

Realistically, there are unseen costs in removing and keeping bees, and we hope to share with you where these costs are coming from so that you can understand the value of our time and services.

### *removal equipment*

The equipment that we use to remove bees has a cost. We either purchase these various tools and equipment or manufacture it ourselves, and will have to deal with the wear and tear of these items that do eventually have replacement costs.

### **bee boxes & frames...\$200 +**

The colony needs some place to go, so we need bee boxes and frames for relocation. Even in swarm removals, the boxes and frames will be needed for your swarm's new home.

### **specialized vacuums & tools**

Removing bees from harder to reach places means that we will be using bee-safe vacuuming equipment during the process, along with supplies to access the hive...from ladders to hive tools to power tools in cutout situations. This equipment has an upfront cost for us and undergoes a lot of wear!

### *time and gas*

At a minimum, our services require both our time (which can vary depending on the complexity of the job that is needed) and

our fuel to get us to your bees and to relocate them. With the former, you are acknowledging the value of our time and dedicated efforts, and with the latter, you are recognizing that the use of our vehicle around the county is not free to us.

### *it's a specialized service*

Removals require an acquired skill set and know-how - this is a specialized service that takes time to learn and develop. Learning how to provide this service and to do it well and safely (for you and for us) takes time! Remember, we aren't just simply removing bees from your property - we are evaluating their location(s) within your structures, the challenges of removal for the least damaging approach, and your risks of returning bees and how to avoid it from happening! This type of work also poses some risk. From work done at some challenging heights, to the use of power tools, to the exposure to health hazards like electricity or lead and asbestos in older structures, we are assuming various risks for our services. We take this seriously and work hard to stay educated in this industry.





 ***as a business, we are insured***

Steve's Bees is not just a hobby - we are a legitimate business! We hold a business license and maintain insurance to stand by our services. This does come at an additional cost, but this should be an assurance of our commitment to safe, quality services.

 ***ongoing care***

Once we relocate the bees, the colony needs care for the rest of the time

they remain so that they can continue to be viable and healthy. Bees may need food and water supplementation, parasite-controls (without this, they can die off quickly), replacement queens, space and future hive equipment. Don't forget the need for bee suits and other tools to work with bees! This commitment to bee rescues is ongoing and takes time and money, for both hobbyists to commercial beekeepers alike.

***Bees and honey both can have value, but...beekeepers are taking a gamble in relocating your colonies.***

It is true that bees may provide a future resource to the beekeeper and may even make money someday, but the value these bees will provide to us is difficult to determine right away. Remember, honey is first and foremost their food and their ability to survive in the long run is dependent on it. While a beekeeper or hobbyist could eventually get some honey from this, or eventually turn it into something lucrative to earn some money, this often isn't a quick reward. Additionally, only time and work with these wild bees will clue the beekeeper in to any future costs or savings the colony can provide. If the colony is in poor health and/or infested with parasites, this may be costly to

remedy for the beekeeper and it can put any other colonies the beekeeper has at risk. As you can see, the upkeep costs compete with the benefits in removing your hive!

We believe in the ecological value in rescuing our pollinators and truly enjoy what we do. Additionally, we aim to be reputable, reliable and professional with our services. While we understand that you may find hobbyists who are willing to remove bees at no charge, we hope that you can also understand the professionalism, time and skill we are providing to you with our services. **Most of all, we thank you for saving our pollinators!**

***Steve's Bees / Midpines, California***

Call us now to set up a free estimate for services at (661) 440-3957.

[www.stevesbees1.com](http://www.stevesbees1.com)

Find us on Facebook!



----- Thank you for saving our pollinators!