

## **Yellow Jackets** **And Other Ground Nesting and Building Void Nesting Bees**

Most bees and wasps are beneficial insects that are the primary pollinators of all fruit tree, many native shrubs and wild flower plants. Unless their nests are in places near human traffic it is advised to let them “bee.” If there is a fear of bees close to human traffic and especially if it involves someone allergic to bee stings, the ground nesting or those nesting in wall voids should probably be eliminated. The method of removal is as follows:

You will need to purchase an insecticidal dust. This dust contains talc that is mixed with the insecticide Sevin (Carbaryl) or a Pyrethroid (Pyrethrins)—they come in a cylinder canister. These products are generally used for dusting vegetation but in this matter it will be blown into the entrance/exit opening of the bees or Yellow Jackets. To blow the insecticidal dust into the opening, you will also need a squeeze bottle or turkey baster that will draw up the dust.

During the early evening (dust) or after dark, blow the insecticidal dust into the opening. As the bees exit in the morning they will be forced to walk across the insecticidal dust. They will not return. After you no longer observe bee traffic near the opening, it is time to seal the opening to prevent a recolonizing of the hole.

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