

These Aren't Honey Bees – Call a Professional Exterminator!

<http://www.nwdba.org/swarmcall.html>

The Yellow Jacket (*Vespula vulgaris*) is a stinging insect common to the Eastern United States and is found in medium sized colonies of a couple hundred to a few thousand. The nest is made of paper but is typically not visible. Usually you will only see members of the colony coming and going from a small hole either in the ground or an external house wall. The colony members are small, smooth (not hairy) with sharply contrasting yellow and black colors. If you are stung by a Yellow Jacket the stinger is not left in your skin since the stinger is not barbed.



The Bald Faced Hornet (*Dolichovespula maculata*) is a stinging insect common to the United States and is found in medium sized colonies of a couple hundred to a few thousand. The nest is made of paper and is typically visible (see nest picture to the right). The nest is typically found hanging from a tree branch (usually 10-20 feet off of the ground). The colony members are larger than Honey Bees, do not exhibit body hair and coloration of a

yellowish/white with contrasting black. If you are stung by a Hornet, the stinger is not left in your skin since the stinger is not barbed. These colonies can be very defensive! While they usually keep to themselves, do not attempt to handle or contact a nest

The Bald Faced Hornet's nest can be as small as a football and as large as 3-4 feet long. Do not attempt to contact or handle a nest. Hornets will vigorously defend their nest if you come in contact with it or are perceived as a threat. Not all nests are found hanging from tree branches. Sometimes, nests can be found attached to the underside of external stair units, on the sides of buildings and under porches.



While there are many Wasp species that nest in a variety of different configurations, the photo shows the most typical nest construction of a paper wasp. These stinging insects are usually found walking upon small (3-4 inch) nests. These nests, however can be quite large (5-12 inches in diameter). The nest is made of paper material and is usually located outside a home (under the eaves)

attached to a fascia/soffit. These nests are also commonly found up and inside attic and bathroom vents.

The Bumble Bee (Genus: *Bombus*) is a stinging insect common to the United States and is found in small colonies of a couple hundred. The nest is made of fibrous material (abandoned mouse nest or birds nest) with small wax pots nested within the fiber. The nest is not typically visible. Usually you will only see members of the colony coming and going from a small hole in the ground. Bumble Bee nests are also common within wood piles, under overturned pots and within other yard debris. The colony members are large (very hairy) with sharply contrasting yellow/gold and black colors. If you are stung by a Bumble Bee the stinger is not left in your skin since the stinger is not barbed. Usually, Bumble Bee nests can be humanely removed and moved to a less problematic location.

