



Bee Swarm Time!

It's the time of years when honey bees are reproducing, which takes place when a queen leaves an existing colony with a large number of worker bees, and the remaining bees raise a new queen to carry on the colony. The bees leaving fly around in a dense mass for a while, then usually settle around the queen when she lands on a branch or other surface. They send out scouts to find a new colony site, and they all move in a big flying mass when a suitable location is found. Bees in this state are very intimidating, but this is actually when they are least aggressive and **least** likely to sting or attack. They have all gorged on honey to get through the move, and only want to be near the queen and move to the new colony site. They are best left alone, and will likely be gone in a day or two. If they are in a very high traffic area or one critical for some type of activity, call the Public Works Help Desk (x-1609).

Chuck Black/Wildlife Biologist/MCAS Miramar/(619) 944-1964 cell.