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## News Release – June 20, 2018

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### Garden Fever Hosts Benefit for Save Oregon's Bees

*Oregonians Celebrate National Pollinator Week*

**PORTLAND, ORE.** – Looking forward to summer and creating a beautiful summer garden? A trip to Garden Fever in Northeast Portland will be a treat for you and a benefit for Oregon's threatened native pollinators. On Saturday, June 23rd, **Garden Fever** will host *Pollinator Celebration*, a benefit to save bees in partnership with Beyond Toxics and Pollinator Project Rogue Valley. The summer event takes place from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Garden Fever, located at 3433 NE 24th Ave, Portland, is donating part of the proceeds from the benefit to the Save Oregon's Bees Campaign.

*"Garden Fever and Beyond Toxics worked together on a successful campaign to help Portland ban neonicotinoid pesticides, known to kill bees, on city property. I love being able to support Beyond Toxics and the work they do to preserve and protect the health of our precious pollinators,"* says Lori Vollmer, owner of Garden Fever.

Fittingly, this year's Pollinator Celebration takes place during **National Pollinator Week**, an international celebration of the valuable ecosystem services provided by bees, birds, and butterflies. A great deal of attention has been focused on honeybees and native bees, pivotal to agriculture and food security, which face alarming declines across the continent and are vital to the health of native ecosystems and the food supply.

Come celebrate **National Pollinator Week** at **Garden Fever** by building native bee-houses, learning about pollinator-friendly gardening techniques as well as advocating policies that protect our precious pollinators. Free Pollinator Tea provided courtesy of Mountain Rose Herbs.

#### **Saturday's Schedule:**

11:00 AM – Noon – Bee House Building Workshop in parking lot. \$5 Donation to Beyond Toxics per bee house.

12:15 – 1:15 PM – Pollinator Gardening with Pollinator Friendly Plants in the Courtyard led by Pollinator Project Rogue Valley & Beyond Toxics.

1:30 – 2:20 PM – Pollinator-Friendly Politics w/ State Senator Michael Dembrow on the Upper Deck followed by a postcard-making station for kids and families.

1:45 – 3:00 PM – Informal Pollinator Q&A with Beyond Toxics in Courtyard.

Beyond Toxics works to protect bees by educating the public about the danger posed to pollinators by neonicotinoid pesticides and loss of habitat, promoting legislation to protect Oregon's bees and working with Bee City USA and Bee Campus USA movement. Beyond Toxics worked with the University of Oregon to pledge to become an official Bee Campus, meaning it will not use chemicals toxic to bees and will establish and maintain healthy, non-toxic pollinator habitat.

***Beyond Toxics promotes environmental justice engagement and community-based environmental grassroots organizing to ensure environmental protection and health for all communities.***