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News Release

Oregon is Nation's First State to Conserve Native Bees

Celebrate Oregon Native Bee Day on Saturday, August 15

EUGENE, ORE. -- Governor Kate Brown proclaimed August 15 as the official Oregon Native Bee Conservation Awareness Day. The Governor announced the day of action after learning about the dire impacts to native bees in Oregon.

Native bees pollinate eighty percent of flowering trees, plants and wildflowers and are a key indicator species for the health of all ecosystems. Some west coast native bees are believed on the brink of extinction.

Oregonians are being encouraged to plant pollinator habitats, leave un-mowed sections of lawn for foraging areas and refrain from using pesticides. Native bees such as bumble bees are extremely sensitive to pesticide exposure. Twelve recent bee die-offs in Oregon were linked to use of neonicotinoid pesticides. Over 100,000 million native bees perished.

Beyond Toxics is raising awareness with bee related events during August. Come celebrate the protection and preservation of native and honey bees and be part of a growing movement to honor the hard work of these amazing creatures!

Celebrate Native Bee Day at Bee Thinking from 1pm-4pm at 1551 SE Poplar Avenue in Portland. Bee Thinking is a premiere supplier of cedar beehives with a focus on the modern backyard beekeeper and sustainable hive design. Guests can also enjoy wellness treatments including hand massages from Aveda, free Aveda samples, mead tasting, enter to win a swag bag from Aveda. Beyond Toxics will help you learn about how you can help [Save Oregon's Bees](#).

On August 20th Beyond Toxics will host a Bee Jazzy Celebration at Silvan Ridge Winery. Silvan Ridge is located in winemaking country of western Lane County. Enjoy the beautiful scenery, wine tasting, live music with the Zac Wolfe Jazz Band and an amazing silent auction. The event benefits Beyond Toxics and their work to save Oregon's bees. Sign up for the Party Bus or join the fun out at Silvan Ridge Winery. Time: 5:30pm-8:30pm. Tickets are \$30 online or at the door. For more information call Christine Cameron at 541-465-8860.

Beyond Toxics works to guarantee environmental protections and health for all communities and residents. We expose root causes of toxic pollution and help communities find effective, lasting solutions.

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