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News Release

Oregon is Nation's First State to Recognize the Value of Conserving Native Bees

Celebrate Oregon Native Bee Day on Saturday, August 20

EUGENE, ORE. – For the second year in a row, Governor Kate Brown has proclaimed August 15th as **Oregon Native Bee Conservation Awareness Day**. The Governor announced the day honoring our native bees after learning about the dire impacts to native bees in Oregon. The request for an annual native bee conservation day was made by Beyond Toxics.

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 native bees perished during seven massive bee poisonings in Oregon during 2013-2014.

Beyond Toxics is raising awareness of how bees are declining during a series of bee-related events during August. The Summer of Bee Love is a celebration showcasing the need to protect and preserve native and honey bees and be part of a growing movement to honor the hard work of these amazing creatures!

On Saturday, August 20th, Beyond Toxics will celebrate Native Bee Day at both locations of Cornucopia Restaurant and Pub in Eugene. All day--for breakfast, lunch and dinner--the cooks at either Cornucopia Restaurant at 5th and Pearl or Corny's on 17th in Eugene will be preparing special dishes with a bee and honey theme. Cornucopia is donating 10% of all purchases to help support Beyond Toxics and their continuing work to help [Save Oregon's Bees](#). Dine in or pick up food to take home.

On August 25th Silvan Ridge Winery will host the third annual Bee Jazzy Celebration, a benefit for Save Oregon's Bees. Enjoy the beautiful scenery, wine tasting and live music performed by members of the popular band, Sugar Beets, including Halie Loren. Indulge in Silvan Ridge wine, food from Sporks A La Cart and a silent auction. Time: 5:30 to 9 pm. Tickets are \$30 online or at the door and includes a glass of wine. 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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