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First celebration of Eugene's Bee City USA designation

Free and open to the public featuring family-friendly fun, music, food, learning about bees, ribbon-cutting with Eugene's mayor

EUGENE, OR. – The first celebration of Eugene's designation as a Bee City USA will be held Sunday, June 9 at Alton Baker Park. The festivities will begin with a bee survey at the Whilamut Natural Area in east Alton Baker Park, followed by a celebration with vendors, live music, food trucks, face-painting and family-friendly educational activities! This event is free, kid-friendly and open to all.

A diverse group of community members have come together to celebrate these special animals that enable global food production with a vision of a sustainable city that protects native flora and fauna. This event is organized by Beyond Toxics, GloryBee, Walama Restoration Project, The Xerces Society, City of Eugene Parks & Open Space Division Lane County Audubon Society, and the UO Bee Campus.

Schedule of events:

Bee City Celebration, 12 pm - 3 pm, Alton Baker Park.

Join us for a celebration of bees and native pollinators that support our community and help our environment and economy thrive! Family friendly activities and learning, live music, special presentations from Mayor Vinis and local pollinator experts as well as food trucks and ice-cream.

3rd Annual Bee Survey, 10 - 11:30 am, Whilamut Natural Area, north of Knickerbocker Bike Bridge.
(Enter "Walama Restoration Project Site" in Google Maps).

Walama Restoration Project, Xerces, Beyond Toxics, and Oregon Bee Atlas are leading the 3rd annual survey of native bees at the Whilamut Natural Area. Join us for a morning of observing our pollinators in their natural habitat and contributing to the Oregon Bee Atlas. We will provide bug nets, identification guides, and naturalists to assist. All ages are welcome, no experience necessary, but we

especially want to urge photographers to join us so we can upload images of our bees to the iNaturalist app. We will be meeting along Pre's Trail, north of the Knickerbocker Bridge. Please note this is a walk/bike access only site, about 1 mile from Alton Baker Park.

Bee Campus Bike Tour, 10am-12pm, Lillis Business Complex PeaceHealth Bike Station 13th & Kincaid

This is a bike tour through the University of Oregon campus, a certified Bee Campus USA. The tour will be led by the university's Bee Friendly Committee, a student organization dedicated to protecting pollinators. We will showcase our bee-friendly initiatives accomplished this year; including our campus beehives, mason bee homes, and a pollinator habitat restoration site. The tour will stop by the CILOS bee survey and culminate at the Alton Baker Park bee celebration/concert. Bring your own bike, or come early to register for a free PeaceHealth bike! We will meet in front of Lillis Business Complex PeaceHealth Bike Station at 13th & Kincaid. To get a PeaceHealth bike, download the **PeaceHealth Rides** app or visit www.PeaceHealthRides.com. Enter promo code **BeeCity19** for \$12 of ride credit good on any payment plan for new or existing members.

Native Plant Tour, 11am-12pm, Native Plant Nursery in Alton Baker Park, behind the Community Garden.

The Native Plant Nursery station is interactive in that people can walk the beds with Kelsey Irvine, Eugene's Native Plant Nursery Technician. This tour will help educate about our native flowering plants that support a variety of native pollinator species. Check out the Pollinator Palace, ask questions and take pictures. Come prepared to learn about native flora and fauna!

More details: <http://www.BeeCityEugene.org>

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