

In August 2021, Project Eleven Hundred gained a new team member: [Beyond Toxics](#), a statewide environmental justice organization headquartered in Eugene, Oregon. With its staff of staff of nine plus interns, Beyond Toxics heads up numerous projects working for “fair, inclusive, and equitable access to clean air, clean water, and safe spaces for all to live and work in.” Because native bees as well as honey bees and people are exposed in forestry and agricultural operations to pesticides and other toxics, Beyond Toxics has been active since 2012 in efforts to secure safe habitats for native bees in Oregon. The native bee work is part of their Regenerative Ecosystems program.

When Lisa Arkin, Executive Director since 2006 of Beyond Toxics (and its former incarnation as Oregon Toxics Alliance) learned of the work of Project Eleven Hundred, the partnership was born. Jennifer Eisele, Pesticide Projects and Education Manager and Lisa will be the key contacts for Project Eleven Hundred in Beyond Toxics. In addition, Beyond Toxics Board member Kristine Lefever will be communicating with BLM and Forest Service land managers in southern Oregon about the threat honey bee apiaries pose to native bees through her own nonprofit, [Pollinator Project Rogue Valley](#). Their first Project Eleven Hundred step is to determine which Bureau of Land Management field offices and which US Forest Service ranger districts have active honey bee apiary permits in Oregon. And then the communication with all the field office managers and district rangers will begin.

The environmental justice work of Beyond Toxics is extensive, strategic, and inspiring. We’re grateful to have Beyond Toxics join us in the effort to support the native bees of our national public lands.