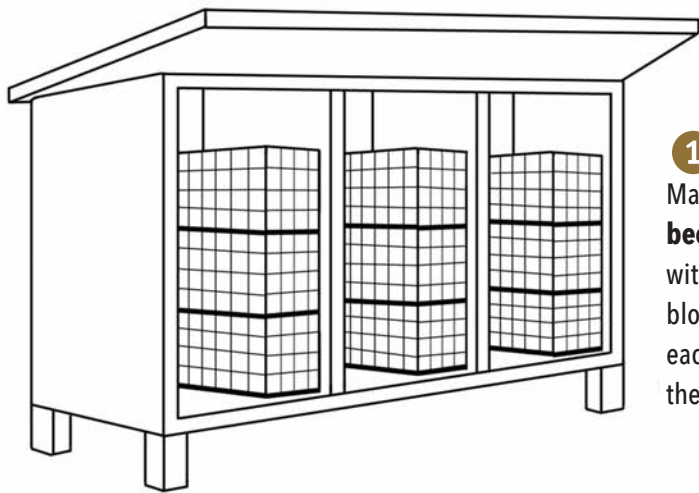


Managed Bees of Oregon

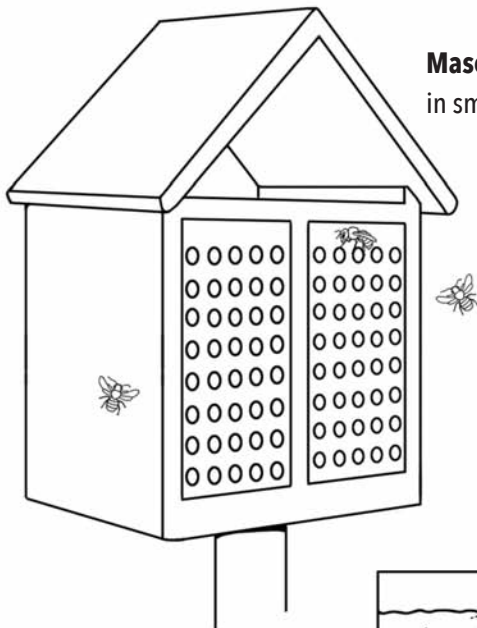
and Where They Live

For over 9,000 years, humans have been collecting wild bee nests. From these nests they would gather things like wax and honey. The bees in the nests would also help them pollinate their crops. Over time, people figured out how to raise some wild bee species using structures they built themselves. These bees are called **managed bees**. In Oregon we have four types of managed bees: **honey bees**, **leaf-cutter bees**, **mason bees**, and **alkali bees**. Honey bees are raised to make honey and wax and to pollinate crops. Oregon's other managed bees are raised only for pollination. Below are three types of structures used to manage bees:



1 Tubes or blocks
Managed **leafcutter bees** and **mason bees** nest in small tubes or in blocks with many holes in them. Hundreds of blocks or tubes are often stored next to each other in a bee shelter that protects the nests from rain and wind.

Fun Fact!
Honey comes in different colors, depending on which flower/s the nectar comes from.



Mason bees nesting in small tubes.

2 Hives
Honey bees are kept in boxes called hives and are the most common managed bee worldwide.

3 Underground nests
Alkali bees are raised in underground nests.

