Instructions for making Larval Landings

The design for Larval Landings has been registered under a Creative Commons license, making it public domain and free to use for profit or non-profit. Our goal is to promote pollinator health through making wild gardens look manicured, for neighborhoods where tidiness is a requirement. We also make and sell locally in the Austin, Texas area. beesforall@gmail.com

Tools/Supplies Needed:

Miter saw
Drill
Cedar board (Untreated) 4” or 5” width
Wood glue
Painter’s tape
Tape measure
Pencil
Screws (preferably trim-head)

Accessories to secure larval landings to the ground and to each other:

Flat metal braces  L bracket corner brace 

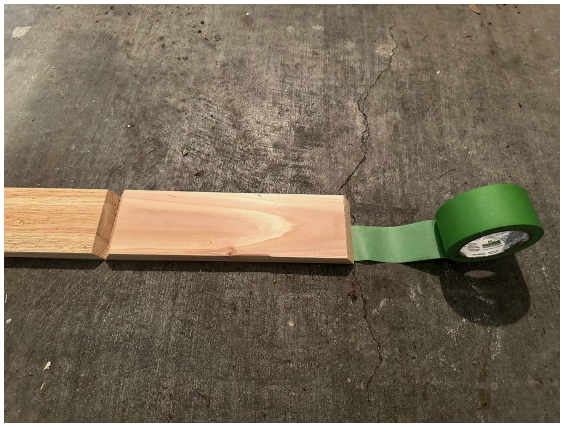
Garden/tent spikes 

Fabrication:

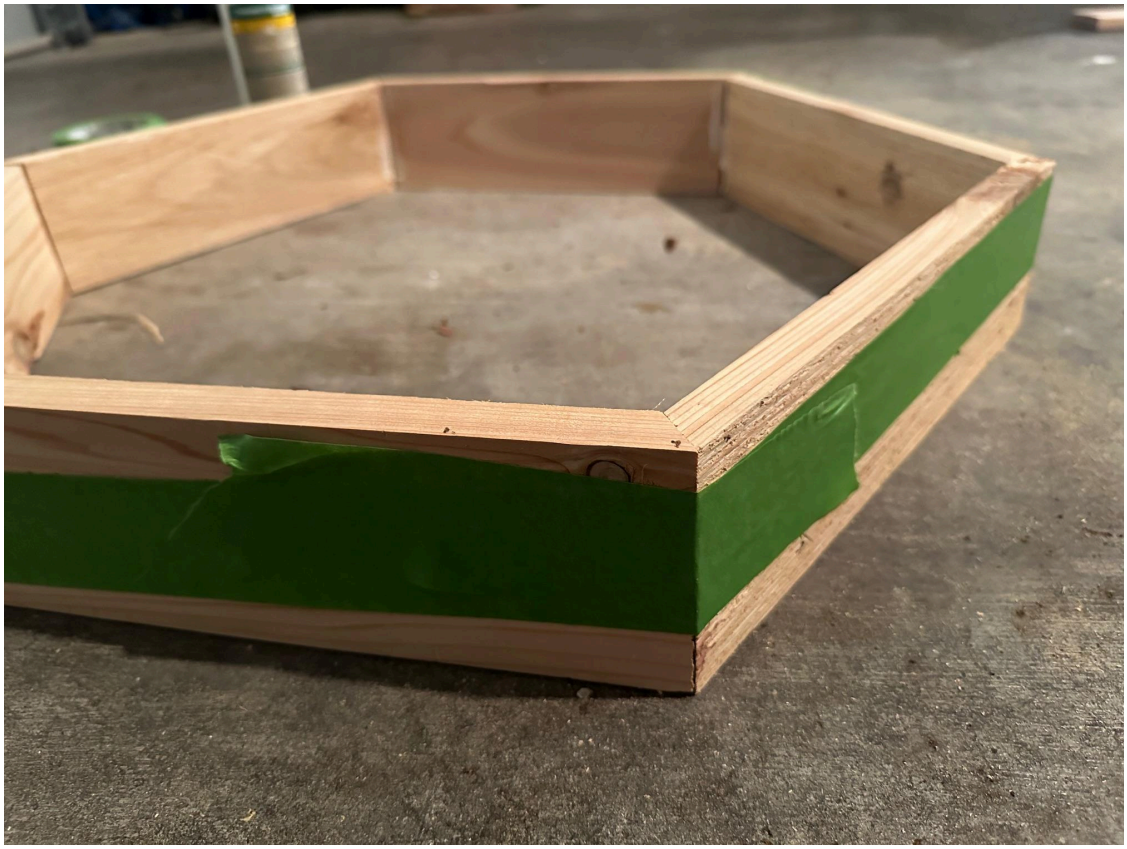
Step 1: Make an initial cut of 30 degrees and then measure and mark a length of 12 inches on the cedar board.

Step 2: Flip the board over and make another 30 degree cut. This 12 inch section of wood with a 30 degree cut at each end is what makes up each side of the hexagon.

Step 3: Arrange 6 pieces lengthwise along a length of painter’s tape, with the sticky side up.



Step 4: Apply wood glue to each cut and gently “roll” the pieces together into a hexagon and make sure they are tightly joined. Use extra tape if necessary. Leave for 24 hours for glue to set.



Step 5. Secure each corner with two trim-head screws.

Installation:

Step 1: Install one L-bracket to each unit.

Step 2: Secure each module to its neighbor using flat braces.

Step 3: Secure to ground using a tent pin through the L brace, seen above.

If possible, remove as much grass from the area before installing. (It's fine if you cannot). Arrange around trees, particularly oaks and other important larval host species. The modular nature of this system means the ring you make around the tree can be as narrow or as wide as you like. The system passively collects leaves and leaves can also be raked into the hexagons. If installing plants within the hexagons, plant directly into the ground rather than adding topsoil, which can deprive trees of air.