



BARN OWL NEST BOX PLACEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

Cal Poly Humboldt
Barn Owl Research Team



Installation & Placement Tips

- Late summer/fall installation is best
- Metal pole at least 3 meters off the ground
- Wooden box at least 24+" tall
- With uncultivated habitats nearby (esp. grasslands & oak savannas)
- Without much forest or urban areas nearby
- Away from houses & busy roads
- Greater than 100 feet apart
- "Colonization" can take 1-3 years, look for bones underneath



Cleaning & Maintenance Tips

- Inspect boxes yearly in the non-breeding season (late summer - early fall)
- Check hardware & fix normal deterioration
- Clean out pellet debris if box was used, leave small layer of pellets, wood chips, or straw
- Wear an N95, goggles, & a Tyvek suit when cleaning
- Don't disturb boxes with owls present!



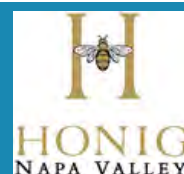
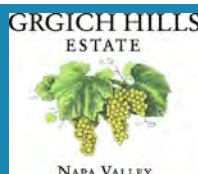
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Recommendations

**Nest boxes should protect from predators, heat stress,
& allow access for maintenance**

Build

- Our design
https://www.wildfarmalliance.org/barn_owl_nest_box_plans
- Barn Owl Trust (UK)
<https://www.barnowltrust.org.uk/barn-owl-nestbox/barn-owl-pole-nest-box/#pole-box-plans>

Buy

- Napa Wildlife Rescue BOMP <https://www.napawildliferescue.org/barn-owl-maintenance>
- Sonoma BOMP: <https://scwildliferescue.org/bomp>
- Valley Owl: <https://www.thevalleyowl.com/>

