COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

NATIVE BEE WATCH COMMUNITY INTERNSHIP

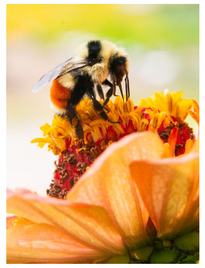
ARAPAHOE COUNTY/STATEWIDE

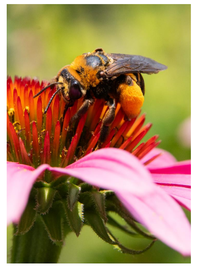
Intern:
- Nancy Bartholomew

Mentors:
- Lisa Mason—CSU Extension Agent; Native Bee Watch Director
- Dr. Jill Zarestky—Associate Professor, CSU School of Education

INTERNSHIP INTRODUCTION

Native Bee Watch (NBW) is a Colorado-wide community science program offered through CSU Extension in which volunteers monitor bees, typically in their own yards. In so doing, volunteers not only contribute to science which can support pollinator conservation, but often become more impassioned themselves about helping bees in their own landscapes and communities. I supported the program's volunteer engagement, outreach efforts, and data collection.





Photos from a bee walk in Fort Collins (Photo credit: Griffin Moores)

INTERNSHIP GOALS

1. Create educational programming for NBW volunteers and the broader community
2. Provide timely and helpful communication to NBW volunteers (whether answering emails or creating newsletters)
2. Assist with data quality control

SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE GAINED

- Volunteer coordination
- Science communication (especially to lay audiences)
- Bee ID and biology
- Presentation skills
- Excel, Constant Contact

INTERNSHIP ACTIVITIES

<u>Education and Outreach</u>
- Taught 4 in-person bee ID workshops
- Led 2 bee walks
- Coordinated bumble bee webinar, presented by Dr. Mola
- Coordinated an online conversation with lead authors of the Colorado Native Pollinating Insects Health Study

Bee ID workshop at Roxborough State Park

<u>Volunteer Coordination</u>
- Created or edited volunteer training materials
- Designed newsletters
- Supported volunteers via emails, Q&A sessions
- Facilitated NBW volunteer Facebook group

Monitoring bees

<u>Data Collection and Verification</u>
- Monitored bees at CSU Trial Gardens
- Checked volunteer photo data accuracy

FOR FUN!

Native Bee Watch volunteers identify Colorado's 1000+ species of bees to 8 morphospecies categories. First, though, they need to learn how to recognize a bee as a bee! Give it a try yourself!

To bee or not to bee?

Bee	Fly
Wasp	Bee
Bee	Fly