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Bring Your Garden to Life this Spring

Eastern Sierra Land Trust to host free Pollinator Garden Workshop on April 14th

A world without fruits, vegetables, and flowers would be a strange and barren place. But this may be the new future, unless something is done to protect the animals that help them reproduce. Many plants need pollinators such as butterflies or hummingbirds to move their pollen from male plants to female plants. Nearly a third of all crops and 90% of the world’s flowering plants depend on this service. But as they disappear due to pesticides, disease, and habitat loss, our dinner plate could look surprisingly empty.

For the past several years, non-profit Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) has been taking action to help find a solution on the local level. Their Eastside Pollinator Garden Project helps gardeners in Inyo and Mono Counties create certified havens for butterflies, hummingbirds, and other pollinators, right in their backyards.

Anyone can help keep the Eastern Sierra thriving and productive for years to come by providing a home for pollinators. Those interested in learning how to create a pollinator-friendly garden are encouraged to attend Eastern Sierra Land Trust’s free Pollinator Garden Workshop, taking place Saturday, April 14th from 10am to 12pm at White Mountain Research Center (3000 E Line St. in Bishop).

With support from US Fish & Wildlife Service and California Native Plant Society, Eastern Sierra Land Trust will provide guidance, information, and resources to anyone who is ready to create their own certified pollinator garden.

After the workshop, those who choose to join ESLT's Eastside Pollinator Garden Project by taking steps to certify their garden as a pollinator habitat will receive a voucher for \$125 worth of native plant purchases. Once ESLT has visited and certified their garden as pollinator-friendly, the gardener will be awarded an ESLT Pollinator Garden Plaque for display in their yard.

Those unable to attend the Pollinator Garden Workshop are encouraged to stop by Eastern Sierra Land Trust’s annual spring celebration, called GardenFest, to be held this year at their office backyard (250 N. Fowler St. in Bishop) on May 5th. This event will offer free garden advice, native plant sales, pizza, beer and more.

For more information about the Eastside Pollinator Garden Project and the upcoming workshop, please contact ESLT Education Coordinator/AmeriCorps Member, Ryan Delaney, at Ryan@eslt.org or (760) 873-4554.

Eastern Sierra Land Trust works with willing landowners to protect vital lands in the Eastern Sierra region for their scenic, agricultural, natural, recreational, historical, and watershed values. To learn more about ESLT’s work and how to get involved, visit www.eslt.org.



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Pollinator Image Caption 1: *There are many ways to design a Pollinator-friendly garden and ESLT is here to help. © Amy Leist*



Pollinator Image Caption 2: *Pollinator-friendly gardens are a great way to attract hummingbirds and butterflies to your home. © Sumiko Photo*

