



# FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

## FM NEWS ISSUE 179

[www.fm.colostate.edu/fmNews](http://www.fm.colostate.edu/fmNews)

**20 JUNE 2023**

**POLLINATOR WEEK**

Did you know June 19–25 is designated as Pollinator Week? Read on below for what FM is working on to promote pollinators at CSU or visit our [webpage](#).

### **Who plants the pollinator gardens across CSU?**

The FM Horticulture Crew, part of the FM Operations Outdoor Services Group, is made up of Horticulturist Izzy ter Kuile and student employees Cassidy Reel, Josie Farwell, Noa Pigg, and Taylor Vervaecke. They plant and maintain over 90 flowerpots and 35–40 annual/perennial installations (beds on the ground).

### **Where are the pollinator gardens located?**

The pollinator gardens are on the main, south, and foothills campuses. Locations are identified on the [CSU interactive map](#), including some photos!

### **What does it mean to add or enhance pollinator habitat at CSU?**

Mid-May through mid-June the Horticulture Crew is busy planting their summer installations, which are a combination of annuals and perennials selected with the intent to attract pollinators. This year they focused on adding more perennial plant diversity to the beds across the campuses. At Center & Lake, for example, they installed over thirty new perennials such as asters, bee balm, bachelor's buttons, black eyed Susan's, and hyssop. At the L shaped gardens by Clark B, they planted lavender and yarrow. This provides more habitat and food for pollinators to graze on.

### **What kind of pollinators have been spotted in these areas?**

Hummingbirds, native bees, bumble bees, sphinx moths, butterflies, and more are regularly feeding at the CSU pollinator gardens.

### **What lessons learned can the Horticulture Crew share about their efforts?**

*Lesson 1:* Make sure you are not planting right in front of irrigation heads and be careful about putting plants with the potential for disease or powdery mildew (bee balm, for example) in locations where they would get too much water from a watering system.

*Lesson 2:* Ensure you have proper spacing of your plants for the future, not installing them too close together. After a couple of years, the plants will grow bigger and will become too crowded if you didn't plan for spacing in advance.

*Lesson 3:* Learn proper care of bee hotels (i.e., sanitization or replacing the hotels each year) to keep pollinators healthy while they use them.



***Issue 179 – Did you learn something new about FM from this communication? Tell us yes or no here.***



### Resources to learn more

- [Sign up](#) to receive updates on how to participate in Native Bee Watch at CSU or at home.
- [Beginner Field Guide to Identifying Bees](#)
- [Fast facts](#) about pollinators

