



176 Home Street
 P.O. Box 755
 Bishop, CA 93515
 P: (760) 873-4554
 F: (760) 873-9277
www.eslt.org

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Contact: Sara Kokkelenberg, Education Coordinator & AmeriCorps member or Kay Ogden, Executive Director, at (760) 873-4554

The Eastside Pollinator Garden Project is in Full Bloom!
Returning Pollinators to the Eastern Sierra

Have you seen those Sierra-sky blue plaques around town? Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) has been hard at work visiting gardens, schools, and ranches, spreading the word about habitat preservation and installing certification plaques in pollinator-friendly spaces. Do you have a garden that is pollinator-friendly or have you considered creating one? Contact Education Coordinators and AmeriCorps members, Sara Kokkelenberg and Ali Amberg, at (760) 873-4554 to get your garden certified and receive your plaque and materials reimbursement today!

The Eastside Pollinator Garden Project has been working to bring pollinators to backyards throughout Inyo and Mono Counties since April of this year. This summer, already ten participants have met ESLT’s certification criteria and many more are in the process, including individuals, community gardens, businesses, and college campuses.

For tips and tools to help your garden meet ESLT’s certification criteria, join ESLT on August 16th from 9am-1pm at the Bishop Nursery. The nursery will be hosting a free pollinator workshop in conjunction with their Customer Appreciation Day. Taste a variety of roasted chilis, sample local honey, and purchase pollinator-friendly plants and habitat features for your garden! Jaimie Pawelek from the UC Berkley Urban Bee Lab will be joining ESLT at the workshop to talk about the Eastside’s native bees and simple tricks for making your garden vibrant and pollinator-friendly.

Unable to make it, but still interested in getting involved? Gardeners who have certified through the Eastside Pollinator Garden Project have recently been helping Jaime and the UC Berkley Urban Bee Lab research Eastern Sierra native bees. Take part in similar research and citizen science projects on the Eastside by certifying your garden today! Applications must be sent to ESLT by September 12th to receive a materials reimbursement, so don’t wait – call Sara or Ali to learn more about the project.

ESLT is committed to keeping the Eastern Sierra community up-to-date on upcoming workshops, events, and citizen science projects. Anyone interested in certifying a garden or backyard as pollinator-friendly habitat is encouraged to visit www.eslt.org to learn more, or contact ESLT’s Education Coordinators and AmeriCorps members, Sara Kokkelenberg and Ali Amberg, at (760) 873-4554.

ESLT works with willing landowners to preserve vital lands in the Eastern Sierra

for their scenic, agricultural, natural, recreational, historical, and watershed values. ESLT's goal is to preserve a healthy balance of land uses that can be sustained forever, ensuring both a strong local economy and environment. For more information about ESLT's mission and preserved lands, visit our website at www.eslt.org.

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Low resolution photos with captions shown below (high resolution versions are attached to email).



Photo Caption 1: Hot off the press - ESLT certification plaques are already on display in gardens in the Eastern Sierra. Is yours next? Certify your garden as pollinator-friendly habitat through ESLT's Eastside Pollinator Garden Project.



Photo Caption 2: ESLT's Education Coordinators and AmeriCorps members, Ali Amberg and Sara Kokkelenberg have certified ten pollinator-friendly gardens throughout Inyo and Mono Counties and are in the process of installing these plaques.



Photo Caption 3: Pollinator Garden shown with blooming Beavertail Cacti, Apricot Mallow, California Poppy, Firecracker Penstemon, Inyo Bush Lupin, and Prince's Plume.