

People and Pollinators Action Network (PPAN)

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### Who am I?

- Founder and Current Chair of People and Pollinators Action Network
- Current VP and Treasurer of the Pollinator Stewardship Council
- Past President of the Western Apicultural Society (WAS)
- Past President of the Colorado State Beekeepers Association (CSBA)
- Owner, Bee Squared Apiaries



#### Who are we?

Formed in 2014 with a mission to:
Improve public health
Factual pesticide education and science
Defend Colorado's natural environment
Improve pollinator habitat



### **Mission Statement**

People and Pollinators Action Network (PPAN) works across Colorado to promote sustainable land management practices, safeguard public health and preserve biodiversity to make our state a safe haven for all who live here—from pollinators to people. PPAN is **the only organization** working at the grassroots, municipal, and state levels to advocate for policies and practices that reduce and eliminate the use of pesticides and to create and connect swaths of pollinatorsafe habitat with the intent of reversing the drastic decline of pollinator populations—upon which our very existence depends.



#### What do we do?

We work on public policy!
We create habitat!
We collaborate!



#### Why do we do it?

Passionate about protecting pollinators
Passionate about protecting people



# Protecting Pollinators

- Insects are near the bottom of the food chain.
  - Helping insects will help all those species dependent upon them.
- Insect <u>biomass</u> is estimated to have declined 40% over the past 50 years.
- Insects are in trouble!
  - Bees
  - Monarchs
- Neonicotinoids



## **Protecting People**

Pesticides are harmful to human health
Pesticides are ubiquitous
Pesticides linger in the environment
Pesticides are not adequately regulated
"treated article exemption"
Only test active ingredient (ai)
No precautionary principle



#### • Public Policy Accomplishments

- o PAC
  - Diversified representation
  - Improved enforcement transparency
- o Colorado Pollinator Highway
- o Pollinator Resolutions
  - Boulder, Boulder County, Lafayette, Longmont, Denver, Berthoud
- Pollinator Safe Pledge
  - Businesses and individuals



#### • Public Policy Accomplishments

- Colorado Pollinator Month (June)
- Comprehensive Pollinator Policy for State lands
- Colorado Pollinator License Plate\*

\*In current legislative session.



#### o Habitat Accomplishments

- o Colorado Pollinator Highway
- o Pollinator Resolutions
- Pollinator Safe Pledge
- Organic Transition for Municipalities



#### Collaboration Accomplishments

- CO State Agencies
  - DNR/CDOT/Governor's Office/Legislature
- CO Pollinator Network

• CO Pollinator Summit

• Environmental Health Coalition



## How can YOU help?

- Stop using pesticides in your own home and on your own property.
- Properly dispose of the pesticides that you already have.
- Support our Pollinator Safe businesses.
- Buy a pollinator license plate!



## How can YOU help?

• Buy what you eat and eat what you buy.

- Buy organic and/or local food.
- Grow your own (organically)!
- Plant native plants/remove turf.
  - Organically manage lawn areas.
- Put your money where your mouth is.
  - Financial
  - Volunteer—we need YOU!



## How can YOU help?

• Take the Pollinator Pledge!

• Form a Pollinator Safe Neighborhood/Business.

• Form a PPAN chapter in your community.

- New chapters include Metro Denver, Boulder County, NoCo-Fort Collins
- Encourage your municipality to adopt a pollinator resolution.



## How can we help YOU?

- Download our CO specific pollinator plant list.
- Purchase a pollinator habitat sign.
- Download our "pollinator safe communities guide".



## How can we help YOU?

• Joyce Kennedy

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- Sabina MacKay
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#### Questions?