

Monument Board of Trustees, May 18

Pollinators and safe weed management

By Lisa Hatfield

On May 18, the Monument Board of Trustees heard presentations about noxious weed management and pollinator protection and regional trails development. Trustees Kelly Elliot and Jeff Smith were absent.

Honeybees and noxious weeds
Town Gardener Sharon Williams of the Public Works Department introduced three experts who presented information about pollinators such as honeybees and how to do integrated pest management, including mechanical, cultural, and biological weed killing, instead of just spraying herbicides when it's time for noxious weed management. It took two hours for the presentations and questions from the audience and

the trustees.

Entomologist Whitney Cranshaw from Colorado State University emphasized the need to improve habitat for pollinators such as honeybees even while reducing noxious weeds. He said the highest risk to honeybees is if the flowers they are feeding on are sprayed while they are in bloom.

If you find a bee hive in a place you don't want it, call the Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association, which will move the hive to safe location instead of destroying it.

Steve Ryder, state weed coordinator for the Colorado Department of Agriculture, facilitates cooperation between federal and state land managers, local governments, and private landowners on noxious weed management issues. He and his staff

administer two grant programs and assist counties and municipalities to comply with the Colorado Noxious Weed Act.

The problems associated with noxious weeds include reducing the state's agricultural productivity, poisonous plant contamination of animal fodder, increased wind and water erosion, and wildfire risk. It requires a cooperative effort to battle aggressive, non-native noxious weeds.

The law states, "It is the duty of all persons to use integrated methods to manage noxious weeds if the same are likely to be materially damaging to the land of neighboring landowners." Ryder said the goal is voluntary compliance, starting with education and resources, and using enforcement as last resort.

He encouraged all landowners to see www.colorado.gov/pacific/agconservation/noxious-weed-species to see photos of noxious weeds and how each one can be fought. In the Tri-Lakes area, noxious weeds all residents need to be currently watching out for and battling include myrtle spurge, knapweed, cheat grass, bindweed, and poison hemlock.

Ryder said many more resources are available to help municipalities and individual landowners, including possible grant money. See www.colorado.gov/pacific/agconservation/noxious-weed-grants-and-financial-assistance. He can be reached at (303) 869-9034 or steve.ryder@state.co.us.

Thia Walker, CSU Extension specialist and program manager for the Colorado Environmental Pesticide Education Program

(CEPEP) at Colorado State University, told the trustees about protecting pollinators using Colorado Driftwatch, an online mapping and registry tool for specialty crop producers, beekeepers, and pesticide applicators at <https://co.driftwatch.org/>.

Landowners can use this site to map their fields and apiaries so that commercial pesticide and herbicide applicators can see the locations. This would allow them to communicate with each other about potential spraying. She also mentioned a related website called FieldWatch, at <http://www.fieldwatch.com/>, where pesticide-sensitive crops can be mapped.

Walker reiterated the need to do "integrated pest management," which is to use cultural, mechanical, and biological means to fight noxious weeds and pests before using pesticides and herbicides. She said the 2,4-D amine herbicide the town is using is approved for aquatic use and is biodegradable. Today's pesticides are friendlier to the environment than the ones from the 1940s through 1960s, she said.

Walker will speak to interested groups who want more detailed information. Write Thia.walker@colostate.edu or call 970-491-6027.

All three speakers emphasized the need for landowners to create more natural refuges for pollinators. Even dandelions are good for bees, and so plants should not be sprayed while they are blooming, Cranshaw said.

Please also refer to Janet Sellers' many articles about bees and noxious weeds by searching the *Our Community News*

MONUMENTAL

MICRODERM
 & Aesthetics
 at the loft

Trina Shook, RN
 Aesthetic Nurse Consultant

monumentalmicroderm.com

Kick off Summer with these Hot Deals!

- ✿ Purchase 2 syringes of **Juvederm** for **\$1,100**, get **20 units Botox** and **Glypro antioxidant serum FREE!** (\$320 savings)
- ✿ Purchase 2 syringes of **Voluma** for **\$1,600**, get **40 units Botox** and **Glypro antioxidant serum FREE!** (\$520 savings)
- ✿ Purchase up to three 5-ml boxes of **Latisse** for **\$159 each**, get **three 3-ml boxes FREE!** (\$360 savings)

4 Highway 105 in Palmer Lake (above Bella Panini) 719.271.0999

The UPS Store 

Mail shouldn't be complicated



You're busy running your business
 Let us take care of your mail, packages and deliveries.

- A real street address, not a P.O. Box™ number
- Package acceptance from all carriers
- Package receipt notifications

The UPS Store 

Copyright © 2014 The UPS Store, Inc. MS410_1821114

Safeway Shopping Center
 590 Hwy 105
 Monument, CO 80132
 719.487.1730
store3693@theupsstore.com
theupsstorelocal.com/3693

Hours:
 Mon-Fri: 8:30am - 6:30pm
 Sat: 9:00am - 5:00pm
 Sun: Closed

25% OFF
SHREDDING SERVICES

Limit one coupon per customer. Not valid with other offers. Restrictions apply. Valid and redeemable only when presented at a participating location. The UPS Store centers are independently owned and operated. © 2015 The UPS Store, Inc. Offer expires 7/31/15

The UPS Store 

\$2 OFF SHIPPING
when you ship 1 package

\$5 OFF SHIPPING
when you ship 2 packages

\$10 OFF SHIPPING
when you ship 3 packages

Limit one coupon per customer. Not valid with other offers. Restrictions apply. Valid and redeemable only when presented at a participating location. The UPS Store centers are independently owned and operated. © 2015 The UPS Store, Inc. Offer expires 7/31/15

The UPS Store 

6 MONTHS FREE
WITH A 6-MONTH MAILBOX SERVICES AGREEMENT (New Box Holders Only)

Limit one coupon per customer. Not valid with other offers. Restrictions apply. Valid and redeemable only when presented at a participating location. The UPS Store centers are independently owned and operated. © 2015 The UPS Store, Inc. Offer expires 7/31/15

The UPS Store 