



Utah Native Pollinator Workshop

Speaker Biographies

Clint Burfitt, Survey Entomologist, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

Clint is a Utah native who enjoys skiing, hiking, and swimming. He graduated from the University of Utah in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science, Biology. Clint is the Survey Entomologist for Utah Department of Agriculture and Food. One of his primary duties is to conduct eradication programs for federally quarantined or major harmful insects. He currently serves as the Co-State Survey Coordinator for the USDA Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey Program in the State of Utah. He has served as the President of the Western Horticulture Inspection Society in 2008 and is currently the Secretary / Treasurer of the National Grasshopper Management Board. As the Nursery Program Supervisor he regulates the interstate movement of nursery stock.

Byron Love, PhD Candidate, USDA Agricultural Research Service

Byron Love is a Ph.D. candidate at Utah State University and works as a technician for the USDA ARS Pollinating Insect Research Unit in Logan, Utah. His research focuses on the response of native bees to wildfire in Great Basin Sagebrush Steppe habitat. He received his Masters degree from California State University where he investigated the native bee diversity along the American and Cosumnes Rivers in Sacramento.

Teryl Roper, Department Head, Plants, Soils, and Climate Department, USU College of Agriculture

Teryl Roper is Head of the Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate at USU. He is a native of Utah and obtained his BS and MS degrees in Botany at Brigham Young University. His PhD is in horticulture from Washington State University. Prior to coming to USU in 2008 he was on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin at Madison for 20 years where he worked with cranberry growers.

Ernie Shea, Project Coordinator, Native Pollinators in Agriculture

Ernie Shea is the coordinator of the Native Pollinators in Agriculture Project, a national effort to identify opportunities to increase populations of native pollinators and enhance the delivery of “free” pollination services from these valuable species.

Ernie has 30 years of experience at the national, state and local level where he has worked in partnership with government agencies, agricultural and conservation organizations and business leaders helping landowners and managers conserve, protect and ensure the orderly development of the nation’s natural resources.

From 1986-2004 Shea served as Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). As CEO of NACD, Shea represented and facilitated the effective

functioning of the association consisting of nearly 3,000 local units of government, 17,000 public officials and 7,000 employees with combined annual budgets exceeding \$1billion.

Prior to working at the national level, Shea held a number of senior leadership positions with the Maryland Department of Agriculture, including Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation. Among other responsibilities, Shea served as the senior Department official responsible for Chesapeake Bay restoration work. He also provided leadership for soil and water conservation, land preservation, domestic and international marketing and other service oriented programs designed to strengthen the state's agricultural industry.

Ernie resides in Lutherville, Maryland and is the President of Natural Resource Solutions LLC, a conservation planning and consulting firm that helps clients craft solutions to complex natural resource challenges.

Cory Stanley, Cooperative Agricultural Pests Survey Coordinator, USU Cooperative Extension

Cory Stanley is a Utah native. She received a B.S. in Zoology from Weber State University and a Ph.D. in Biology from Utah State University. Her research interests include improving retention of commercial solitary bee populations, solitary bees' learning and memory, pesticide effects on solitary bees, integrated management of honey bee pests, and control of invasive insects. In her current position with Utah State University Cooperative Extension, she serves as both bee specialist and coordinator of the Cooperative Agricultural Pests Survey.

Katie Wagner, Assistant Professor of Horticulture, USU Cooperative Extension

Katie grew up in Lexington, Kentucky where she attended the University of Kentucky and was a member of the Environmental Soil Chemistry Lab under the direction of Dr. Chris Matocha. She completed a B.S. in Topical Studies: Environmental Science and Policy and a M.S. in Plant and Soil Sciences. Katie moved to Utah in 2006 and completed a B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture from Utah State University in 2009. Katie is currently employed by Utah State University Cooperative Extension as an Extension Assistant Professor of Horticulture in Salt Lake County. Katie has expressed interest in pollinator education and has recently been featured in local media sources educating the public on the importance and design of pollinator gardens in urban areas.