



Working with local scientists, artists Wendy DesChene and Jeff Schmuki help communities identify, and create positive actions that will benefit their local pollinators.

Honeybees are dying and we don't really know why. Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) is the term for the large-scale deaths of honeybee colonies worldwide. Bees help pollinate 30% of the world's food crops and 90% of our wild plants. CCD was first reported in 2005 when commercial beekeepers began noticing that their adult worker honeybees would suddenly flee the hive, ending up dead somewhere else leading to the rapid loss of the colony.

The Pollinator project helps to underscore bee decline and the importance of other pollinators in our environment, through the creation of community engaged educational events, and publications. The publications often created with direct community involvement, not only provides information on pollinators but offers simple actions that support the environment and encourages those curious in backyard naturalism.

Using the concept of the second shift pollinators, our actions go beyond the common known bee as a pollinator source. Through the creation of nothing events, and identification booklets the question of conservation extends to many more of our beneficial insects and gets everyone excited about their own backyard.

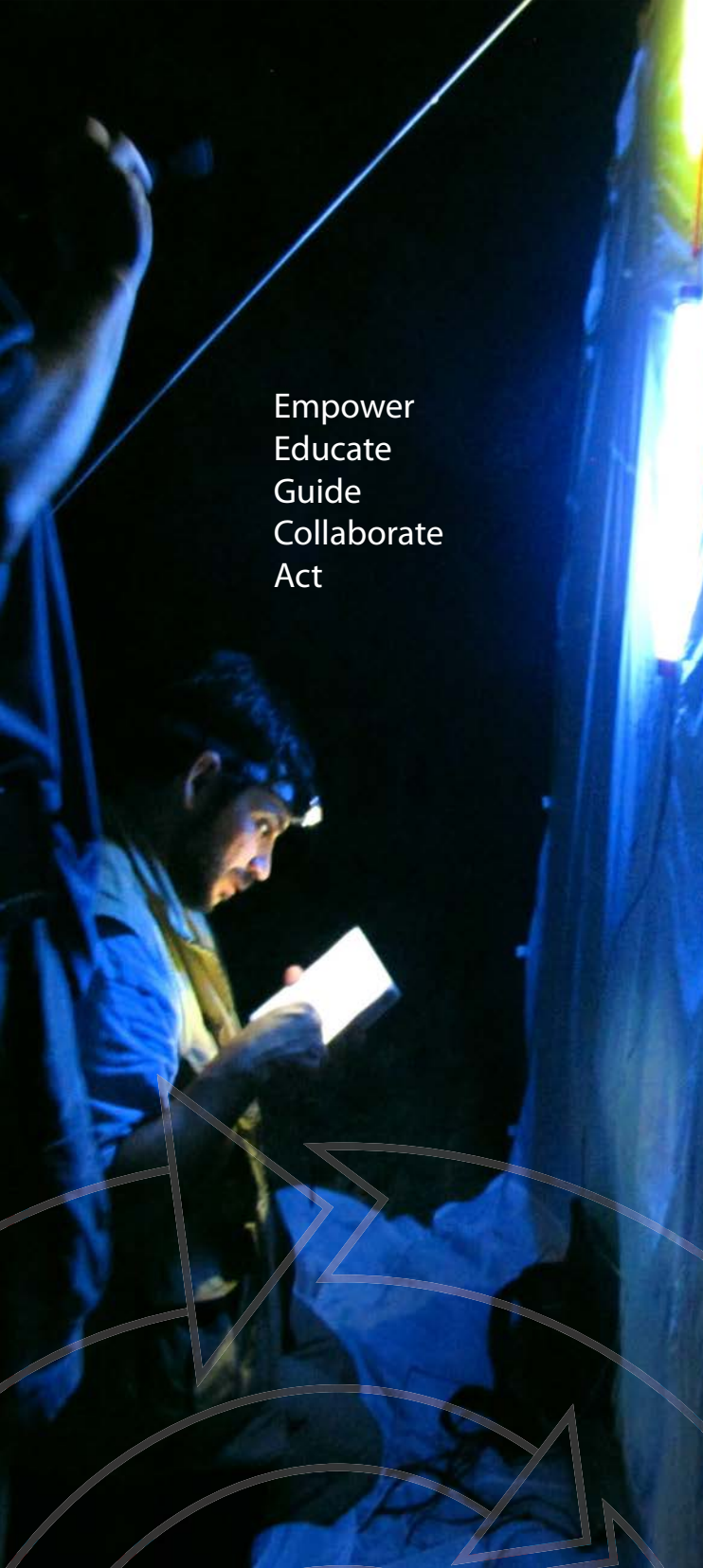
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**Pollinator  
Project**





Empower  
Educate  
Guide  
Collaborate  
Act

Sustainability is grass roots and at its core is empowering communities through education and action. Many small local actions are the best way to create large scale impact. Our mobile 18' foot ArtLab and class room, is deployed to begin conversations on environmental issues, including pollination from within communities. Our lab is stocked with info and art to help participants become better stewards for the eco-systems which support them in a powerful and playful way.



Organized 'Mothing' events and spontaneous cataloging of "Second Shift Pollinators", or mothing interventions in both rural and urban locations, allows attention to shift to what is undiscovered in everyone's backyard. Whether we are hosting an event in a local park, or a busy sidewalk we encourage everyone to take action in a fun and entertaining way. Events that include issues of pollination are designed to be extremely flexible in their scope, from intimate "Mothing Dinner Parties" to larger city-wide festivals.

To leave a lasting impact, we collaborate with the community and local scientists to create a Pollinator Guide specific to the area, keeping the project going well after we leave. This friendly book acts as an easy guide for families to take more positive and empowering actions in their own yards as well as help identify some of the creatures like the moths that live in it. As advocates for Citizen Science, and Backyard Naturalism, which has been in rapid decline this action, is a lasting reference to keep families involved and engaged with nature.

