



# QUANTITATIVE & SYSTEMS BIOLOGY COLLOQUIUM: Pollinator Gardens are Novel Ecosystems



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## About The Speaker:

In an era of biodiversity declines, pollinator gardening is a growing social movement with the potential to moderate or mitigate other environmental stressors. In this talk, I combine general theoretical models with case studies from the northeastern US and northern California to assess the conservation value of these gardens. For many reasons, it will be challenging and possibly undesirable for these gardens to replicate natural systems. However, encouraging "imperfect" gardens is beneficial to pollinators in towns and cities, and it is not clear whether "perfect" habitat would be more beneficial than these novel ecosystems.

## Abstract:

As an undergraduate student, Elizabeth Crone had difficulty deciding whether to study biology/ecology or architecture/urban planning. Now, she is a population ecologist studying population ecology of butterflies, bees, and perennial wildflowers. She received a Ph.D. in Botany from Duke University in 1996, and then was a postdoctoral researcher in Zoology at University of Washington, a professor of Wildlife Biology for a decade at the University of Montana, and a professor of Biology for a decade at Tufts University. Since 2022, she has been a professor of Evolution and Ecology at University of California Davis. She began expanding her research program to include urban pollinator conservation in towns and cities in 2018 (or so), which in many ways brings her career back to its origins.



**Date:**  
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**Time:**  
10:30 AM – 11:45 AM

**Location:**  
SSB 130

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