



**Science Outreach – Athabasca  
presents...  
Native bees: a look at the  
natural history and ecology  
of Alberta's endemic  
pollinators**



**Speaker: Dr. Jessamyn Manson  
Assistant Professor, Department  
of Biological Sciences,  
University of Alberta**

**Date: October 14, 2015**

**Place: Athabasca University  
Governing Council Chambers**

**Time: 7:00 to 8:30 PM**

Native bees play an essential role in maintaining healthy ecosystems by pollinating plants that provide food and habitat for a myriad of organisms. They also contribute to increased yields for many economically important crops. However, native bees are currently facing many challenges such as habitat loss, diseases and a changing climate; all factors that have been tied to declines in several species. In this talk Dr. Manson will explore the complex reciprocal relationships between plants and native bees, highlighting how bees use floral characteristics to decide which plants to pollinate. She will also discuss her work surveying pollinator populations across Alberta to measure the biodiversity and abundance of native bees. Understanding the distribution, habitat and foraging preferences of native bees is the first step in detecting species at risk and creating sustainable land management strategies to protect these ecologically and economically valuable animals.

Admission is free. Door Prizes! Refreshments will be available for this presentation. This event is in partnership with Crooked Creek Conservancy of Athabasca.

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