

# WILDFLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY: PANORAMA TO CLOSE-UP

AUGUST 7 - 9, 2020

COURSE LEVEL: II COURSE #: S1050  
FEE: \$300 PER ADULT AGES 16 AND OLDER

INSTRUCTOR: BOB DEAN



Rocky  
Mountain  
Conservancy  

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FIELD INSTITUTE

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LOCATION: Rocky Mountain Conservancy – Field Institute & Conference Center  
1895 Fall River Road, Estes Park, Colorado

TIME: Friday: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM  
Saturday: 7:00 AM – Sunset  
Sunday: 7:00 AM – Noon

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will help you learn to create images of wildflowers you'll be proud to share! Participants will learn to use the creative controls on a camera to capture beautiful images of flowers from panoramic views to close-up details. Delve into the software tools for focus stacking (allowing nearly unlimited depth of field) and discover the amazing world of wildflower photography. Part of getting great images is using the best natural light. Participants will do field work at the beginning and end of the day, saving the classroom work for evenings and mid-day. Since Colorado's summer weather can include rainy afternoons and evenings, there will be an option to do studio work.

## COURSE LEVEL: II

Short-distance walks throughout the day on primarily level terrain.

**BRIEF INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY (additional information available at [www.RMConservancy.org](http://www.RMConservancy.org)):** Bob holds degrees in electrical engineering from San Jose State College (B.S. 1968) and Stanford University (M.S. 1975). While working in the fast-paced High-Tech world, he found relaxation in nature and wildlife photography. Over the years he honed his skills and in the early 2000's took the step to become a part-time professional. Since his retirement from the corporate world he and his wife Nadine have "focused" on nature, wildlife, and travel photography, mostly teaching in the classroom and holding workshops in the field. Bob has been teaching and lecturing at many Colorado venues including the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Highlands Ranch Community Association, Arapahoe Library District, Douglas County Library District, Gardens at Spring Creek in Fort Collins and numerous local camera clubs. He has written four eBooks: *Macro Photography - Bringing the Small World to Life*, *Travel Photography for Fun and Profit(?)*, *Depth of Field - A Photographers Guide to Understanding Focus*, and *Digital Nature Photography - Nature and Wildlife for the Experienced Photographer*. Published images and articles have appeared in magazines and newsletters including Falcon, Outdoor World, and several photo newsletters. He was an assistant editor and featured writer/photographer for First Light Monthly Newsletter for Nature Photographers.

**INSTRUCTOR'S WEBSITE:** <http://www.viewsofnaturephoto.com>

**EXPECTATIONS:** Professional conduct will be expected from participants at all times. Individual ideas will be respected. Except during course breaks, cellular phones, pagers, and personal entertainment devices are strictly prohibited in the classroom and during field sessions.

**CAR-POOLING:** Rocky Mountain Conservancy - Field Institute courses utilize car-pooling to limit vehicles traveling into the Park. Car-pooling makes it easier to keep the group together, reduces transit time, and allows courses greater access because fewer parking spaces are required at destinations. In addition, it provides an opportunity for participants to discuss course material in small groups during transit. Typically, a few participants from each course volunteer the use of their vehicles for car-pooling to course locations.

## TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

### Friday 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

6:00 PM	Introductions Discussion of course content, field safety and overview of field sessions. Lecture on the photographic composition and camera creative controls and how they relate to wildflower photography.
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### Saturday 7:00 AM – Sunset

7:00 AM	Session I: Digital field photography
11:00 AM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Discussion on additional techniques and image processing software
3:00 PM	Break
4:00 PM	Session II: Digital field photography and/or studio work (weather dependent)

### Sunday 7:00 AM – Noon

7:00 AM	Session III: Digital field photography
10:30 AM	Student critique session and final class comments
12:00 Noon	Wrap-up

## WHAT TO BRING:

- Sack lunch, snacks, energy bars, **WATER**, sunscreen
- Digital camera and lenses (macro and/or a wide angle to medium telephoto zoom lens) or point-and-shoot camera with close-up feature.
- Camera manual
- Spare batteries and memory cards
- Tripod
- Knee pads or kneeling cushion
- Camera bag or daypack
- Sturdy hiking boots or shoes
- Layered clothing including raingear and a hat
- Ground cloth or a couple of large plastic trash bags

**Where will we go during the Field Sessions:** The field sessions, will be primarily on the east side of RMNP. Possible locations will include Upper Beaver Meadows, the Alluvial Fan area in the Endovalley, Hollowell Park, and possibly Little Horseshoe Park. We may head up a bit higher depending on where Mother Nature puts her flowers. We will go to locations where we'll be able to find lots of flowers. These locations do have limited parking but if we carpool, we should be OK. Walking will be limited to "comfortable" distances and over moderate terrain. We realize that carrying camera gear is a lot different than just hiking!

**REMEMBER TO BRING THE 10 ESSENTIALS:**

Rocky Mountain National Park recommends that hikers always carry the 10 essentials in their daypacks.

- Raingear
- Map and compass
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Sunglasses and sunscreen
- Candles
- Matches or other fire starter
- Pocketknife
- First-aid kit
- Extra layers of clothing
- Sack lunch, snacks, and water

*Note: Rocky Mountain Conservancy - Field Institute recommends that participants for all courses dress in layers and wear comfortable, sturdy hiking boots/shoes. Participants should be prepared for sudden changes in temperature and weather conditions.*

**REFUND POLICY:**

Cancellations received at least 14 days prior to the start of a class will qualify for a refund minus a cancellation fee of \$25.00 per participant for a one-day class, \$50.00 for a multi-day class, \$5 per kid's class and \$15 per bus tour seat. Cancellations received less than 14 days prior to the start of a class or bus tour will not generate a refund. If the Field Institute cancels a class, every effort will be made to place the participant in another class; otherwise, a full refund will be given.

**TEACHER RECERTIFICATION CREDIT:**

Most courses are eligible for teacher recertification credit through the Centennial Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES). The fee is \$25.00 per course (.5 unit) or \$25.00 per series of threaded courses (1.0 - 3.0 units). A list of threaded courses can be found online at [www.RMConservancy.org](http://www.RMConservancy.org). Participants must enroll in all courses of a threaded series in order to qualify for the \$25.00 multi-unit fee. Please be prepared to pay for this credit with a check, made payable to BOCES, on the first day of a course or on the final day of a threaded series of courses.