



**Kate LeCroy** has been awarded the 2017 Garden Club of Virginia Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellowship for her **Mason Bee Monitoring Project**.

The project seeks to track the presence of spring-emerging mason bees across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Mason bees are solitary bees in the genus *Osmia*, and they readily nest in empty cavities in nature. These bees have been found to use “bee hotels” (see photo). This monitoring project is led by University of Virginia graduate student Kate LeCroy and her advisor,

Research Associate Professor T'ai Roulston at Blandy Experimental Farm.

[More about Kate's project.](#)

[Read “UVA Today” article about Kate's work with citizen scientists.](#)